



ARAB TIMES

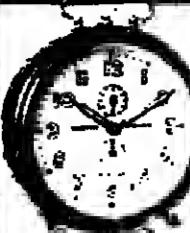


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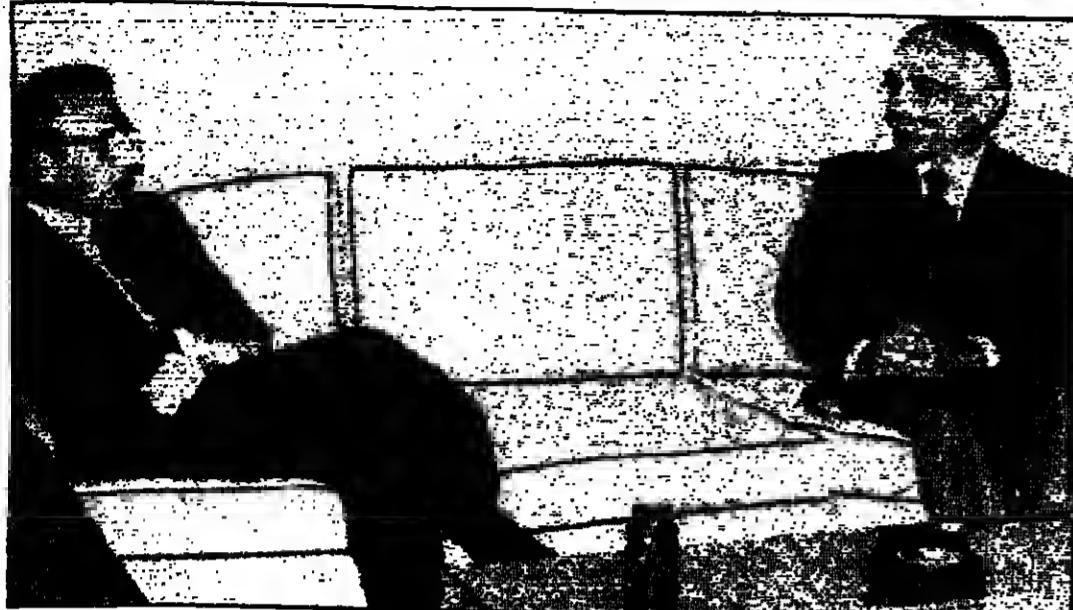


20 PAGES 150 FILS

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SUNDAY, OCTOBER 30, 1988

RABI UL AWWAL 19, 1409 AH



Carlucci (left) in talks with King Hussein at the royal palace in Amman. (Reuters wirephoto)

Algerian ruling party chief sacked

ALGIERS, Oct 29, (Reuters): Algerian President Chadli Benjedid today sacked Mohammed Cherif Messaadja, the number two in the ruling National Liberation Front (FLN) and his effective deputy, the official APS news agency reported.

The move followed riots earlier this month which Chadli ended with the promise of far-reaching political reform.

A statement published by the official Algerian news agency APS said Messaadja, the top man in the party after the President, had been "called to other functions."

Messaadja's post is to be taken by Abdellahid Mehri, newly appointed ambassador to Morocco with which Algeria restored diplomatic relations last May.

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Carlucci holds talks on military co-operation in Jordan

AMMAN, Oct 29, (AP): US Secretary of Defence Frank Carlucci met with King Hussein and huddled with high-ranking Jordanian officials to discuss military co-operation.

The official Jordan news agency, Petra, said Hussein and Carlucci "reviewed, bilateral relations" and said the king discussed the need for "a peaceful and just solution" to the Iran-Iraq conflict.

Hussein was a staunch supporter of Iraq during its eight-year war with Iran, halted in August by a United Nations ceasefire.

Talks over lunch at a palace followed a meeting of the Jordanian-American joint military commission, where Carlucci headed the American side.

Attempts

Prime Minister Zaid Al Rifai and the Army's Commander in Chief, Field Marshal Zeid Bin Shaker, led the Jordanian delegation.

Petra said the sides "reviewed issues of mutual concern and means of co-operation between the two countries. They also discussed the general situation in the region."

The committee helps oversee the use of almost \$50 million in US military aid to Jordan, as well as training, joint exercises and other co-operative efforts.

Carlucci arrived yesterday in Jordan, and he plans to continue on to Egypt and Israel.

Palestinians stage protests, strikes

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Oct 29, (Agencies): Arabs in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip and in Israel itself staged strikes and protests today, the anniversary of the 1956 killing of 43 Arab civilians by Israeli troops.

In violent clashes in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, troops shot and wounded at least 26 Palestinians, hospital officials and Arab reports said.

The Army could immediately confirm only four wounded.

Closed

The sources said several hundred Israeli Arabs, joined by Jewish leftists, marched in the village of Kafir Kassem where 32 years ago troops shot dead 43 unarmed Arabs returning from work, apparently unaware that a curfew had been imposed there.

The anniversary has become a focus for Arab protest against Israeli rule.

The sources said the marchers in Kafir Kassem, just inside Israel's 1967 border with Jordan,

chanted slogans condemning Israel's occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip and backing a 10-month-old Palestinian uprising in the territories.

Throughout the occupied areas, shops and businesses closed in answer to strike calls by the uprising's underground leadership and its sometime rival, the Muslim fundamentalist Islamic Resistance Movement.

Palestinian sources said that in the old market of Nablus, the West Bank's largest city, stone-throwing youths clashed with soldiers. In the nearby Balata Palestinian refugee camp demonstrators burned an Israeli flag, the sources said.

Journalists said they were harried from Nablus and Ramallah.

Palestinian sources said troops shot and wounded three Arab demonstrators in the Aideh refugee camp and three in the Gaza Strip's Mughazzeh camp, and shot a 24-year-old woman in the abdomen during clashes in Ramallah.

Commercial shipping officials in Dubai said Iran appeared to have been responsible for sowing

UN monitors troop movements along tense border

Iran refuses to bow to Iraqi pressure

MANAMA, Oct 29, (Agencies): Iran refused today to bow to Iraqi pressure for concessions over the Shatt Al Arab waterway, but said it will be ready to withdraw its troops next week if the UN-mediated talks produced an agreement between the two warring nations.

Mohammad Jaafar Mahallati, Iran's ambassador to the United Nations, told the Sharjah daily Al Khaleej that there would be no weakening of Iran's resolve to defend its claim to the Shatt Al Arab.

"It is unacceptable that (the agreement) be modified or changed. ... This is a firm Iranian position."

Iraq, however, described the treaty as null and void after the eight-year Gulf war, and urged Tehran to accept a new agreement.

"We say this agreement is cancelled, and we should forge a new accord," Iraqi Information Minister Latif Jasim told the British Broadcasting Corp.

Mahallati said the Security Council has asked UN Secretary-General Perez de Cuellar to limit the talks to two weeks and demanded "more substantial progress."

"The troop withdrawal can be done, probably after two or three rounds of talks, at the end of next week," Mahallati said. "It will be mostly, we are ready to implement the withdrawal."

He said the Tehran govern-

ment "has no reservation, in principle" with proposals made by the UN chief to withdraw troops in two weeks, repatriate prisoners of war, guarantee freedom of navigation in the Gulf and start discussions on the clearing of the clogged Shatt Al

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Employ nationals, UAE banks asked

ABU DHABI, Oct 29, (Reuters): Commercial banks in the United Arab Emirates, where foreigners make up two thirds of the population, have been asked to employ more UAE nationals, a newspaper said today.

The emirates' target is to replace all expatriates with nationals in the UAE's 40 local and foreign banks, the Sharjah-based Al Khaleej newspaper reported.

The newspaper quoted Deputy Governor of the UAE Central Bank Sheikh Mohammed Bin Sultan Al Dahir as saying nationals accounted for only 6.3 per cent of commercial bank staff.

Stipulated

"We have asked banks to raise that level to 10 per cent and we hope this will be done before the end of the year," Al Khaleej reported as saying.

"As part of our plan, we have stipulated new bank branches should have 20 per cent of national employees," he said.

Foreigners comprise about two thirds of the UAE's 1.6 million people and 90 per cent of the 500,000-strong workforce.

(Continued on Page 2)

2,000-yard-wide channel to be secured

European navies sweeping southern Gulf for mines

DUBAI, Oct 29, (Reuters): European navies have started a final sweep for mines through the southern Gulf but naval experts said today it would be a long time before the whole waterway was clear, even if Iran and Iraq co-operated.

"Even if we were

INTERNATIONAL

ARAB TIMES, SUNDAY, OCTOBER 30, 1988

US demands \$29m for bugged embassy

WASHINGTON, Oct. 29. (Reuter): The United States has presented the Kremlin with a bill for \$29 million in damages for a new embassy in Moscow that Washington insists is riddled with Soviet listening devices and must be torn down.

US officials expect their claims for compensation to go even higher but it may not be easy to exact satisfaction from the Soviet Union, despite an era of

Soviet spokesman Gennady Gerasimov Moscow on Friday argued Washington has never proven the "bugging" charges and said the embassy rebuilding project would be a waste of money.

Aspect

"But there is another aspect. There is an anti-Soviet aftertaste in such a decision," he told a news conference. "We can only say that unfortunately there is such an anti-Soviet campaign, a spy campaign, and we have nothing to do with it."

The United States has never publicly detailed the bugging problem, saying it did not want its Soviet adversaries to know how much it knows.

But a 1987 study by former CIA director James Schlesinger concluded the US government "consistently underestimated the determination and ability of Soviet intelligence organisations to penetrate" the new embassy at all phases of construction.

State Department spokeswoman Phyllis Oakley said the \$29 million was demanded for construction delays and, to a lesser extent, defective work on the new embassy.

Bush leads in most opinion polls**Vice-president hiding in cocoon: Dukakis**

WASHINGTON, Oct. 29. (Reuter): Democrat Michael Dukakis, trailing George Bush badly in the contest for the presidency, accused Republican campaign managers yesterday of hiding the Vice-President in a cocoon.

Bush, who leads the Massachusetts governor by about 10 points in most opinion polls, emphasised some "positives" yesterday during a California leg of race that has seen charges from both sides of "negative campaigning" and unfair attacks.

Dukakis campaigned in Michigan needing to make up a percentage point per day by election day on Nov. 8, and said the race was getting closer despite the polls.

Soviet shuttle launch postponed after malfunction

MOSCOW, Oct. 29. (Reuter): The Soviet Union space programme suffered a setback today after a system failure indefinitely delayed the maiden flight of the country's first reusable shuttle.

A last-minute system malfunction prevented the scheduled blast-off from the Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan.

The unmanned Buran (snow-storm) shuttle, mounted piggy-back on the giant Energia booster rocket, had been due to lift off at 0323 GMT before the countdown was halted in the final stages, the official news agency Tass reported.

"In connection with this, the command was automatically given for all operations to cease. Work is currently under way to eliminate the problems that have arisen."

Command

It initially said the launch would be delayed for four hours but later announced an indefinite postponement.

At the final pre-launch stage

of the Energia booster rocket and orbital craft Buran there was a malfunction in the work of one of the launch systems," the agency said.

Third setback

The postponement was the third setback in the Soviet space programme in recent weeks. Last month, a double malfunction in the landing system of a manned Soyuz-TM module made it miss its reentry point and left the crew marooned a day in space.

"Folks, this race is tightening up all over this country." He told a jubilant crowd of 3,500 in Warren, Michigan.

Trouble

"Mr. Bush is out there in his little cocoon and they won't let him out," he said.

Trouble

Sasso, vice chairman of the Dukakis campaign, made it clear the Democrat hoped to flush Bush out into a position where he might make a damaging mistake.

"If Bush has to come out of the cocoon he's in trouble," Sasso told reporters.

"He's going to have to come out and start answering questions. Think about it. If he won't come out now under any circumstances and answer questions,

what's he going to do as president of the United States?"

Sasso said the Republican strategy of limited access to the candidate could backfire in the last stages of the campaign.

"When you're as cocooned up as he has been and not been willing to answer questions, and now all of a sudden you have to come out in the closing days, sometimes that's not the best way to do it," Sasso said.

Dukakis asked the crowd to work hard to get out the vote for the Democratic ticket. "We have 11 days to go and as all of you know, in politics 11 days is a lifetime," he said.

"Folks, the pollsters don't twin an election. The people win on election day. Everyone counts."



Bush

Your vote, your effort can be crucial in getting out the vote in this state and elsewhere," Dukakis said.

"They've run a campaign that's probably the most negative in history and I think they know why. They want us to forget the red ink that they've piled on the books of this nation."

"They want us to forget about a phony war against drugs run by the Vice-President of the United States."

Soviets and Eskimos win praise**Whales swim out of ice trap**

BARROW, Alaska, Oct. 29. (Reuter): Two California whales swam towards warm waters today at the end of a rescue mission which won praise for Eskimos and brought Soviet sailors Western gifts, including Pepsi Westerns.

the shallow waters of Prudhoe Bay and the idea was abandoned.

"Everything we're doing, we're doing for the first time," National Guard colonel Tom Carroll told reporters.

As the barge began failing, the National Guard decided to try crashing through the ice with a 14,000-pound (6,500-kg) concrete block attached to a cable hanging from a helicopter.

Holes

Scientists discovered that the block could punch large holes in the ice, but the boles were left with ice chunks that quickly froze solid again.

The Eskimos, equipped with two dozen chainsaws donated by an Oregon Company that manufactures chains for cutting timber, began cutting a series of breathing holes to a path stretching towards the mammals' path to clear water.

Alive

Before that, US scientists had tried several rescue plans that ultimately failed.

For several days while the Eskimos kept the whales alive by working round-the-clock to cut air holes in the ice, Veco International, an oil industry service company that helped develop oil resources in the far north, tried to move a 185-tonne ice-breaker barge some 230 miles to Barrow.

The barge kept getting stuck in

Barrow in a C-5A transport plane, the largest aircraft ever to land at Barrow airport.

Debris

The machine could chop through the ice. But it also left too much debris in the channel it cut.

While Veco went to work constructing a sled it said would push the debris under ice on each side of the channel, the United States announced it had asked the Soviet Union to send an icebreaker and that Moscow had agreed.

Hours after two Soviet icebreakers arrived, they had successfully cut through a ridge that contained ice blocks as large as a house and ploughed a passageway close to the whales.

The whales quickly swam a little more than one mile up the channel, then balked at going farther.

Overnight in sub-zero temperatures, the channel froze shut. The Eskimos resumed cutting breathing holes.

The Russians agreed to a US request to take another run at the ice. This time they came within 150 yards (metres) of the whales.

At daylight yesterday the mammals swam into the new channel and headed down the coast of Alaska towards warmer waters, said Ron Morris, coordinator of the rescue effort for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

Iran refuses to bow to Iraq

(Continued from Page 1)

confined to Wenceslas Square, where Western reporters saw hundreds of helmeted riot police clear a crowd estimated at 5,000 people.

Several hundred demonstrators were forced off the square by water cannon and police cordons. But they then marched to the old town square about a kilometre (half mile) away, witnesses said.

Flowers

There is a document from the Charter 77 human rights movement was read before baton-wielding police and special troops from the Ministry of the Interior again moved in with water cannon and armoured vehicles, according to an anonymous witness.

Authorities said 87 people were detained after yesterday's demonstration. An estimated 70 dissidents were rounded up in police raids on Thursday.

Released

Released

Protesters customarily are held for 48 hours by police. At least one man, Charter 77 activist Václav Benda, was released and immediately rearrested, his wife said.

Witnesses today condemned the police behaviour and reported that the protest rally was not

sowing mines and putting obstacles" in the path of genuine peace.

Iran said it was trying its best to resolve problems in the Gulf and had ordered its mine-sweepers to finish clearing the strategic waterway by the end of the year.

Issues

Mahallati pointed out, however, that even if both sides agreed to clear the Strait — plagued by mines, sunken ships and the site of eight years of Iran-Iraq war — Iranian and Iraqi forces would be unlikely to bulk to massive minefields in the post-war era.

Mahallati said other sticky issues at the Geneva talks would be the return of some one million refugees, some of whom are in Iranian refugee camps.

He also said Iran was "ready to accept a logical link between withdrawal of troops and a suspension of our right to search ships in the Gulf."

Iran said it retains the right to board and search ships in the Gulf if it suspects of carrying arms to Iraq until a permanent peace treaty has been signed, but allowed Iraqi freighters to pass through the Strait of Hormuz, the strategic mouth of the waterway, without incident.

Perez de Cuellar has left New York for Geneva to conduct the talks.

Meanwhile, three aides to US senators arrived in Baghdad today to discuss strains in relations caused by charges of Iraqi use of chemical weapons, Western diplomats said.

Gang fights increase in Moscow

MOSCOW, Oct. 29. (Reuter): Street fighting between rival youth gangs has risen sharply in Moscow, with nearly 30 clashes involving about 4,000 people since the start of the year, Mostovskaya Pravda said today.

Law and order officials said that while the police had so far contained the fights, lessons should be learned from other Soviet cities, the city's Communist Party newspaper said.

"The lessons of youth uprisings in Kazan, Mordovia, Alapayevsk, force us to assess the situation in Moscow too as near critical," it quoted prosecutor L. Baranov as saying.

Recent Soviet press reports have described increasing violence in many Soviet towns where gangs of youths wielding knives, iron bars and homemade explosives roam the streets, clashing with each other and challenging the police.

Syria wants no clashes with Lebanon ...

(Continued from Page 1)

garrison town of Souk Al Gharr. Lebanese Forces militia leader Samir Geage, said he and Acoun between them had achieved relative military parity with Syria.

The official Iranian news agency IRNA today quoted Assad as telling visiting Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati that Islamic and "national" forces in Lebanon had united to unite.

In Beirut, political sources said today that Muslim and Christian rivals are girding for possible war but diplomacy might still bring a peaceful settlement to the country's crisis.

Options

"Military and peaceful options are moving in parallel," said one source. "There is a 50-50 chance between the guns and diplomacy."

A Muslim militia source said today that the Syrian Nationalist Social Party (SNSP), a staunchly pro-Syrian militia, had reinforced its positions facing Christian forces in the north.

Another Muslim source said pro-Syrian Palestinian guerrillas and the Druze Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) in the Shouf mountains southeast of Beirut had strengthened their positions facing the Army.

Palestinians stage strikes

(Continued from Page 1)

the West Bank town of Jenin.

An Army spokesman confirmed the Mughezz report and said a Palestinian was shot and wounded in Rafah, in the Gaza Strip.

In Jerusalem, paramilitary border police fired tear gas to disperse Palestinian youths who set up barricades in the Arab Jabal Muqaber district, a police spokesman said.

AJA head Radwan Abu Ayash said that 50 Palestinian journalists were now in prison.

tion (AJA) issued a statement condemning yesterday's arrest of seven Palestinian reporters and calling for United Nations intervention.

The seven were among at least 30 Arabs rounded up in a swoop apparently designed to pre-empt expected Palestinian protests ahead of Israeli elections on Nov. 1.

AJA head Radwan Abu Ayash said that 50 Palestinian journalists were now in prison.

Artist dies

FLORENCE, Italy, Oct. 29. (Reuter): Pietro Annigoni, the Italian artist whose portraits of heads of state and religious figures made him world famous, died in Florence yesterday, a hospital spokesman said. He was 78.

Annigoni had emergency surgery in May for a perforated ulcer but failed to recover fully. He was readmitted to the Careggi Hospital in Florence on Thursday, the spokesman said.

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TOYOTA

Japanese-owned vessels back in northern Gulf

From Jadranka Porter,
In Tokyo

TOKYO: Japanese-owned vessels are back in the northern reaches of the Gulf for the first time since April 1984 when the threat of the tanker war scared them away from ports in Kuwait, Khafji and northern Iran, according to officials at Japan's Ministry of Trade and Industry and the Japan Seamen's Union.

Japan's shipowners wasted no time in sending their tankers to the oil loading terminals in northern part of the waterway following an agreement with the Japan's Seamen's Union on Oct 25, some nine weeks after the ceasefire in the Iraq-Iran war.

Their carriers are currently loading crude at Iran's Kharg oil terminal and vessels are on the way to Kuwait and Khafji, the officials said.

Safe
But not all of the Gulf is considered safe for navigation, said Masahiko Nakamura, the director of the union's international affairs department. According to the Oct 25 agreement between the Shipowners' Association and

the union the Japanese-owned vessels will not venture beyond 29.3 degrees north of the equator. This means they will not be calling on Iran's port of Bandar Khomeini and Khorramshahr for some time yet, Nakamura added.

"Although we don't expect hostile actions in the northernmost parts of the Gulf, there are too many shipwrecks there to consider that part of the waterways safe for navigation," Nakamura told the *Araha Times* in Tokyo.

Attacks

Throughout the eight-year Gulf war the Japanese-owned tankers plied the Gulf waters but in early 1984 the Japanese limited their operations to the southern Gulf.

Attacks on neutral shipping in the waterway claimed one Japanese life. A Japanese sailor was killed in an attack on a Kuwaiti container vessel Al Manakh in February 1985.

Few Japanese-flagged ships came under attack during the tanker war but more than a dozen Japanese-owned vessels flying foreign flags and manned by Japanese crews were assailed.

Kuwait hosts seminar on highway maintenance

By Lima Al Khalafawi

THE First Highway Maintenance Management Seminar in the Gulf was held yesterday at the SAS Hotel.

The seminar, organised by the Kuwaiti Engineers Office (KEO), will continue until Monday.

KEO managing director Abdul Aziz Sultan gave the opening address and welcomed the seminar's participants.

The seminar is designed to raise awareness of effective highway management maintenance programmes for top executives in the field.

Performance

The three-day seminar is being attended by professional highway management maintenance experts from Bergstrahl-Shaw Newman (BSN) of Gaithersburg, Maryland.

Discussions will centre on ways to ensure that highways are properly maintained.

Management systems do not make decisions or replace managers, they only provide managers with information to base decisions on, said Robert New-

man, senior vice-president of BSN.

Newman discussed performance budgeting, activity definition and accomplishments, evaluations and control.

Kuwait has a good highway system, but many of its highways are near the end of their design life, he said. Maintenance of these roadways will become a problem as they get older.

Newman also discussed a systematic process for planning, budgeting, scheduling and monitoring the performance of maintenance activities such as cleaning drains and culverts, patching pavements, replacing signs and removing sand.

Training

Maintenance management systems must be adapted to fit Kuwait's needs, he said.

Ed Shaw, president of BSN, discussed organising maintenance management and performance standards.

He also discussed training of supervisory personnel, maintenance employees and equipment operators.

Many of the suggested training techniques make use of interactive computers and videos, he said.

Two arrested for selling drugs, liquor

DETECTIVES of the capital governorate arrested two men yesterday for trading in narcotics and liquor.

A Syrian national identified as Mahmoud A was first arrested for possessing drugs. He confessed to having purchased the drugs from the second suspect identified as Joseph R, a Lebanese national.

A search of the second suspect's home revealed a can containing cocaine and seven small bottles of heroin. Police also found a small brewery on the roof of the home. The suspect said he obtained the drugs from his sister in Lebanon.

His friend told police that the victim had earlier received a letter from his family telling him that his two brothers and mother were killed in mysterious circumstances.

Fashion Fair begins in Mishrif

By Lima Al Khalafawi

KUWAIT Fashion Fair 1988 was opened yesterday by the Undersecretary of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry Abdullah Al Hamad at the international fairground in Mishrif.

The Fashion Fair offers a large selection of fashion products at the best available prices. The fair is being held again this year because of the positive response from visitors and shop owners at last year's exhibition.

One hundred and fourteen owners of local boutiques and fashion shops are showing their best products at this year's fair.

They are offering 50 per cent discounts on all products at the fairground.

The wide range of the latest fashion products includes ladies wear, casual wear, sports wear, eye glasses, fashion jewellery, accessories, children's wear and folkloric Arabian dresses.

Signatures boutique owner Jihad Al Khalid said the exhibitions attract more people to her boutique. She said she is already planning to participate in next year's fair.

The fair is being organised and managed by Al Shera'a International.

The fair will continue until Friday from 9 am to 12.30 pm and from 4 to 8.30 pm at the National Hall at the Mishrif fairground.

Sheikh Sabah meets with PLO official

KUWAIT, Oct 29. (KUNA): Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed today met the PLO's Patah Central Committee member Khalid Al Hassan.

Al Hassan told reporters here that the meeting reviewed recent Palestinian diplomatic moves and PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat's visit to the European Parliament headquarters in Strasbourg.

He said his discussions with Sheikh Sabah also touched on the uprising of the heroic Palestinian people in the occupied Arab territories and increasing Israeli suppression.

Iranian man commits suicide

A 35-YEAR-OLD Iranian man committed suicide by hanging himself with a rope tied to a ceiling fan in his room at Fintas three days ago.

His friend told police that the victim had earlier received a letter from his family telling him that his two brothers and mother were killed in mysterious circumstances.



Abdullah Al Hamad, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, views a display at the Kuwait Fashion Fair.



Two participants are shown at the Fashion Fair.

Klibi in Kuwait to discuss Lebanon

KUWAIT, Oct 29. (Agencies):

Arab League Secretary-General Chadi Al Klibi arrived in Kuwait today for talks with HH the Amir on Arab action to solve the Lebanese crisis, the Kuwait News Agency (KUNA) reported.

Klibi, on a Gulf tour, will discuss a United Arab Emirates (UAE) call for an Arab summit on Lebanon, which has had two rival governments and no head of state for more than a month.

An Arab diplomat said Gulf Arab states support the idea of a summit but want a prior meeting of Arab foreign ministers to discuss the position of Lebanon resistance and some PLO factions, he added.

He outlined that Israel's preoccupation with its election campaign should not minimise the dangers of the aggression as implied by some quarters which are supposed to be well acquainted with the Israeli intentions.

"For this reason specifically I expect from Israel the worst probabilities," Klibi warned.

"There is no way for our countries to keep silent and the international community should shoulder its responsibilities in this connection, especially in light of the presidential vacuum in Lebanon which I consider as an encouraging factor for Israel to continue its aggression," Klibi said.

Court upholds sentence in rape case

THE Court of Higher Appeal upheld a sentence of 10 years in jail with hard labour to be followed by deportation imposed on a man charged with the forcible rape of his married cousin.

The court was told that the plaintiff was preparing to leave for work shortly after her husband had left when the defendant, her aunt's son, visited her in the morning claiming that he had to give her some important documents. The defendant had earlier offered to help her in obtaining a driving licence.

In loving memory of Edward Leo D'Souza Died 31-10-87

First anniversary requiem mass on Mon. Oct 31, 1988 at Our Lady of Araby Church, Ahmadri at 8:00 p.m. inserted by children Robert, Michael, Emily and Lizzie in-laws Anthony, Charles, Alonso and Maria and grandchildren. Relatives, friends and well-wishers kindly accept this as the only intimation.

MONTH'S MIND MASS

Mrs. Maria D'Souza
(Wife of the Late Exaltaco D'Souza)
Expired in Bombay on 30th Sept. 1988
Mass on 31st October '88 at Our Lady of Araby Church, Ahmadri at 7 pm
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BAHRAIN DIGEST

Carnival to mark national day

A carnival will be held on Dec 9 as part of the celebrations to mark Bahrain's National Day and the forthcoming GCC summit.

So far, about 40 companies and local ministries have indicated that they will have floats in the carnival.

The carnival will be similar to the one organised two years ago as part of the celebrations to mark the Silver Jubilee of HH the Amir Sheikh Issa Bin Salman Al Khalifa's accession to the throne.

Between 50,000 and 60,000 people turned out to watch that parade. This year's carnival is expected to run on a GCC theme. Organisers are planning other attractions to make it a big family event.

"The response has been very encouraging, but there is still time for companies and organisations to enter," the organiser said.

Delegates to attend NRI seminar

ABOUT 50 delegates from Bahrain are expected to attend the second Gulf Non-Resident Indians (NRI) seminar in Dubai in December.

The seminar is being organised by the Overseas Indian Economic Forum, UAE, on Dec 14 and 15 at the Hyatt Regency Hotel.

The first Gulf NRI seminar was held in Bahrain in March this year. According to Nevin Meghji, president of the Bahrain group, the Bahrain NRI Investors Group is fully supporting the Dubai meeting following the success of the first seminar.

"We have an excellent response from our members in Bahrain and we hope to make a delegation of 40-50 members," he said.

The theme of the seminar is the role of NRIs in development and industry and exports. Bahrain group will present a paper on Indian exports.

Bahrain hopes to win back fair

BAHRAIN hopes to win back a major fashion/trade fair, once the island's new BD3.7 million exhibition centre is completed.

The Motelco and Childepco show was held at the Diplomat Hotel for some years before being switched to the UAE.

This year's event will be at the Dubai International Trade Centre next week, but the Bahrain-based Arabian Exhibition Management believe the event could return to the island.

Chief Executive Brendan Jennings said: "We will work very hard to get Motelco back here, when the new exhibition centre at Sanabis is ready."

New cameras introduced

AN NEW range of S-Series Kodak cameras was introduced in Bahrain this week.

Ashraf Brothers — one of the leading department stores on the island — hosted a reception at the Sheraton Hotel to introduce the new cameras.

A demonstration of the Kodak cameras was given at the reception which included Kodak's local retailers and dealers.

Kodak's area business manager and business development manager based in Dubai presented five new S-Series Kodak cameras.

The Ashrafs are the exclusive distributors of Kodak cameras and accessories in Bahrain.

Kuwait calls for disarmament

UNITED NATIONS, Oct 29. (KUNA): Kuwait yesterday called on the international community to reach agreements on disarmament since international detente has had favourable effects on regional conflicts.

"For the UN and for the multilateral negotiating forum, international and regional, this is an opportunity to explore their great potential and to implement the noble purposes and principles of the charter," Kuwait Representative Gassan Youseff Al Zawawi told a special meeting of the UN political and Security Committee in observance of disarmament week.

"We wonder would it not be better for men to benefit from such co-operation in preventing the danger of a nuclear holocaust, would it not be better for co-operation to be aimed at peace, the principal components of which are disarmament, security and development," he said.

Speaking also on behalf of the Asian group which Kuwait currently chairs, Al Zawawi said that now more than ever there is a need to adopt real disarmament measures for economic, environmental, political and other reasons, including the necessity to save mankind from nuclear annihilation.

He said the recent Soviet involvement in international efforts to save three whales in Alaska from dying under the ice is an indication of the international climate, especially as regards the two superpowers.

"This international co-operation opens the way to negotiations regarding co-operation in the 1980s," Al Zawawi said.

The court was told that when the employer returned home she alerted the building guard who managed to catch the suspect as he was leaving the building.

The man tried to escape after pushing the employer aside, but she alerted the building guard who managed to catch the suspect as he was leaving the building.

The talks will also cover the Palestinian uprising in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, with the aim of backing the struggle of the Palestinian people to gain their genuine rights, including an independent state under the leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, the sole representative of the Palestinian people," he added.

The Aden delegation included Deputy Prime Minister and Interior Minister Brig. Saleh Al Silsi, Fisheries Minister Salim Jubran, Foreign Minister Abd Al-Aziz Al-Dali, Deputy State Security Minister Hassan Ali, presidential military adviser Mussallam Al-Mehnil, and South Yemen's Ambassador to Oman, Mohammed Saad.

Al Attas was welcomed by Oman's ruler, Sultan Qaboos, and a high-level government delegation with whom the Yemenis are scheduled to start official talks at Al Alam Palace in Muscat later today.

Al Attas said in an arrival statement that they will discuss

South Yemen leader arrives in Muscat to end 20-year rift

MUSCAT, Oct 29. (Agencies):

South Yemen's President Haider Al Attas arrived in Muscat today amid tight security for a four-day official visit aimed at ending a 20-year rift with Oman.

Al Attas' visit is the first to the pro-Western sultanate by a leader of the Aden government.

Crown

Al Attas was welcomed by Oman's ruler, Sultan Qaboos, and a high-level government delegation with whom the Yemenis are scheduled to start official talks at Al Alam Palace in Muscat later today.

Al Attas said in an arrival statement that they will discuss

ways of boosting "bilateral ties and fruitful co-operation."

He stressed that he is confident his visit will "mark the opening of a new page of joint co-operation between the two countries."

Oman and South Yemen, lie on the southernmost tip of the Arabian peninsula. The Aden leadership is seeking to improve relations with its neighbours, despite ideological differences.

Patching up relations with Muscat world crown efforts to end two decades of political and border tension that began when Aden supported rebels in Oman's southern Dhofar region against Qaboos' father, Sultan Saed.

Qaboos, with British and Iranian help, crushed the rebels in 1975 after a 10-year campaign.

In the past, Oman, which has a defence accord with the United States for the use of its bases in case of an emergency, has accused South Yemen of being a Soviet base.

The rapprochement was fostered by the neighbouring conservative Arab governments of the peninsula.

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EVENTS

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

MORNING

- 9.00 Holy Quran
- 9.10 Good Morning
- 9.15 Dabdoob Al Musiqar: cartoon serial
- 9.45 World News via Satellite
- 10.00 Abn Al Fulos: local serial
- 10.45 Good Morning
- 11.00 Wa Yabqa Al Amal: daily Arabic serial, starring Abeer Essa, Mohammad Qabani, Shafiqah Tall, Tayseer Atiya
- 12.00 News Summary
- 12.15 Believe It Or Not
- 1.00 News Summary
- 1.05 Holy Quran/Closedown

EVENING

- 4.00 Holy Quran
- 4.15 World News via Satellite
- 4.45 Ra'ad Al Amlaq: cartoons
- 5.15 Tum Tek and Children
- 5.30 Eureka
- 6.00 La Ilaha Illallah: historical serial
- 7.00 News Summary
- 7.30 Diwaniyat Shura Al Nabati: poetry session
- 8.30 Good Evening
- 9.00 News in Arabic
- 9.55 Anfuwan Al Ashiya: Arabic serial
- 10.45 Late Night Variety Show.
- 12.00 News Summary
- 12.05 World News via Satellite

KTV 2

12.30 Holy Quran/Closedown

- 3.30 Holy Quran
- 3.39 Cartoons
- 3.55 Local Football: Al Shaab Club(Iraq) vs. Kazema Club (Kuwait)
- 6.10 Thundercats: cartoons
- 6.30 Fast Forward: a look at various means of transport
- 7.00 Steel Riders: Lee and Mike tap the government computer for information and Sandra is lured into trouble
- 7.30 Challenge: "Africa" Wildlife on the African continent
- 8.00 News in English
- 8.40 The Flying Doctors: a group of hippies are tonight's unwelcome visitors to the Australian town in the outback
- 9.30 Hooperman.
- 10.00 She is the Sheriff: Hildy gives shelter to a homeless boy who persuades her to leave home.
- 10.30 Best-Seller: "The Gambler."
- 11.30 News in Brief
- 11.40 Magazine D'Actualites/Holy Quran/Closedown

Please note that programme and timings are liable to change without notice.

NIGHT CHEMIST

Kuwait
Al Muntasar Pharmacy
Ahmad Al Jaber St.
Al Ajeeb Pharmacy
Adnan Abdul Aziz Bldg.,
Palestine St., Mubarkiya

Farwaniya
Al Taawon Pharmacy

Hawalli and Nogra
Al Jodar Pharmacy
Tunis St.

Salmiya and Romaiya
Al Shifa Pharmacy
Salem Al Mubarak St.

Fahsheel and Ahmadi

Al Sheha Pharmacy
Late Sheikh Bldg., Fheil

Jahra
Al Khalid Pharmacy
Opp. Co-operative Society

CINEMA TODAY

Al Andalus
Predator
Starring: Arnold Schwarzenegger
Al Salmiya
Ana Wal Azaab Wa Huwak (Arabic)
Starring: Walid Taufiq, Sabrin, Wahid Saif
Al Hamra
Kul Hada Al Hub (Arabic)
Starring: Noor Al Sharif, Laila Alwi, Yahya Shahin
Drive-In
Iqbal Madrasah (Arabic)
Starring: Nahila Oshaid, Sahiree, Hisham Salim, Sabah Qabil
Al Firdous
Dayavao (Hindi)
Starring: Vinod Khanna, Feroz Khan, Madhuri Dixit
Al Fahsheel
Danger Zone

Fahsheel Open-Air
Vijay (Hindi)
Starring: Meenakshi Seshadri, Anil Kapoor

Al Jabra
Ram aur Shyam

Granada

Chor Machaye Shor

Shahibkhana

Urban Warriors

Al Jeeb

Jurmana (Hindi)

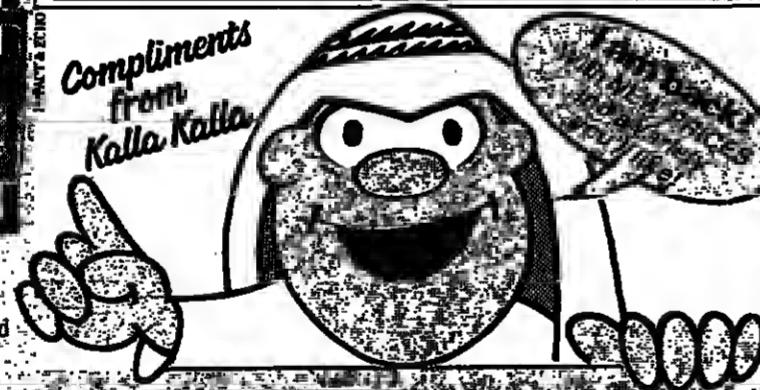
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GOING PLACES

The fun was real not ghostly

IT was not a "jeebon maran somashya" (question of life and death) like Bhupati Rai's (Mahmud Hassan Baba) but a "somashya" (problem) it was. (If language was not a problem, one could have joined in the laughter instead of following the leader. Yet, this did not matter.)

The fun was in seeing the changing expressions, rolling eyes and smug faces of eager creditors play-acting for the "Rai Bahadur Bhupati Rai Bhuiyan" who puts up a false show of wealth to entice a buyer of a haunted palace, set in a village in Bengal. The year is 1561.

But this was not the crux of the problem for the players of Moushak group's Beogali play Ballavapare Rupkatha, performed at the Mousetrap Theatre on Thursday and Friday.

The daunting task was to

convince the buyer, Halder,

without letting him know about Raghu Da (the ghost who has been living in the palace for four centuries).

Ghosts have this uncanny habit of making an appearance at the most inopportune time.

Raghu Da wins the heart of

Halder by reciting Sanskrit couplets. It is at this point that the play turns into a romantic comedy of errors. And Mrs Halder has the unenviable task of "frightening the ghost".

"Raghu Da wo't come,"

moans Bhupati, "he is afraid of

Mrs Halder" even while Halder boasts about the "good buy".

"It's a bargain. At 10,000

taka I get the palace and the

ghost!" he says. Now, how many would want to buy a

ghost-infested palace?

The royal chef Maochar

(Dada Siraj) has you in splits



Bhupati (right) trying to convince the shopkeepers to play-act.



Manohar with Bhupati Rai.

The sound and light effects for the climax were finely done by the meo behind the stage — Mannan, Nice, Tareq, Ouamru and Sameer.

The entire cast, all amateurs did a great job. The cast included Ejaz Ahmed, who played the hen-pecked Halder, Runana Hus was the convincing domineering wife, Mrs Halder. Sabar Ali, Syed Ali Wahed and H. Hussain played the three harried shopkeepers.

"Natak khuh halo hoye chhe — chaliye ja! (The play was entertaing, keep it up)."

FA

Pianist

McArthur to give recital

SCOTTISH pianist David McArthur revisits Kuwait to give his third performance at the Mousetrap Theatre on Monday night.

McArthur has been performing in Kuwait and the Gulf every year since 1986. During the past 12 months, he has visited the US, Far East and Europe.

"It is indeed an exciting time in my career; if this continues I will realise my ambition of playing the piano for people around the world," said McArthur.

Born in Scotland, he began learning to play the piano at the age of nine and had his debut as a soloist in Grieg's Concerto at 17. He later studied at the Royal Scottish Academy of Music under Miles Coverdale and studied with David Wilde at the Guildhall School of Music in London. He also obtained a "Performer's Diploma" from the Royal College of Music in the UK.

David McArthur: roving musician

Over the past 10 years, he has acquired the reputation of being a sensitive musician.

A musician, says McArthur, is "constantly changing, maturing and becoming a little better at communicating with his audience."

His audiences, he claims, are receptive and appreciative. "Even the teenagers have become more appreciative of classical music," he says.

McArthur's Kuwait concert repertoire includes Beethoven's Sonatas in A Op. 2, No. 2; Schumann's "Faschingsschwanke aus Wien, Op. 26; Elgar's Allegro Op. 46 and Chopin's Fantasie; Ballade, Nocturne and Scherzo.

FA

Goans celebrate village festival

THE residents of Colva, a Goan village, on Thursday night celebrated a village festival at the Messilah Beach Hotel, Kuwait.

They danced with romantic fervour to the music of Top Ranks and played a variety of games. Prizes were awarded to the first couple to go on the dance floor — John Rodrigues

and Mary Vaz; the best dancers Angela Almeida and Diego Almeida; novelty dancers Margaret Raynold (first prize) and Altou and Luisa Vas (second).

There were games for children as well as the pass-the-bouquet contest. Its winners were Larry Aguiar (first) and Adreana Fernandes (second).

-Peter D'Souza

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ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

THE most difficult thing in life is to know yourself — Thales, Greek philosopher (about 640 BC-546 BC).

Secretive dealings routine for S. Africa

By David Crary

JOHANNESBURG. (AP): From military headquarters to athletic fields, from corporate board rooms to a zoo director's office, secrecy in South Africa is a fact of life.

The phenomenon extends far beyond the traditional realm of national security. Because of the stigma attached abroad to dealing with South Africa, clandestine tactics are considered necessary by leaders in government, business, entertainment, and sports.

"It's impossible for the average citizen to keep abreast of what's going on," said Peter Soal, a parliament member for the anti-apartheid Progressive Federal Party.

The penchant for secrets reaches high levels. Foreign Minister P. W. Botha, accompanying President P. W. Botha on a recent trip to Europe, made a secret two-day trip away from the main entrance.

"I am not prepared to say publicly exactly where I was, except to say I visited one or two countries in the east or in Africa," the foreign minister said upon his return.

Visit

The white-controlled government claims several black African statesmen have visited South Africa clandestinely in recent years.

Officials also say prominent blacks in South Africa have negotiated secretly with the National Party government about possible political reforms. To identify these leaders would risk discrediting them in the eyes of other blacks, the government says.

Much of the country's foreign trade, particularly efforts to circumvent economic sanctions, is enveloped in secrecy. The government says South Africa trades with 40 other African states, but it declines to identify them.

Statistics dealing with arms imports and exports are secret. So is most of the information dealing with energy and the country's nuclear programme.

South Africa does not say how much oil it consumes or how it meets its oil needs. It is a crime to disclose information on how petroleum is obtained, a law passed to protect suppliers violating

a United Nations-endorsed oil embargo against South Africa.

The Defence Act prohibits unauthorised reports about the composition and activities of the armed forces. Statistics on draft resistance are not revealed, and past invasions into Angola have been treated secretly.

South Africa did not confirm its renewed presence in Angola last year until many weeks after large numbers of troops entered. Throughout the campaign, military headquarters did not issue comprehensive statistics on casualties among its black troops.

Business Day, a Johannesburg newspaper, contended in an editorial on Wednesday that the National Party government engages in "a systematic concealment of the truth from the public."

The idea of simple public accountability has decayed so far that not only invasions, but even the salaries of public servants are concealed," it said.

In parliament, lawmakers are entitled to ask cabinet ministers for information and statistics that might not otherwise be disclosed. But the ministers often decline to answer, saying disclosure would not be in the national interest.

Passion

"That answer has become more prevalent lately," said Soal in an interview. "The Nationalists have a passion for secrecy."

Emergency regulations forbid unauthorised reports about detainees or security force action. Justice Minister Kohie Coetzee recently proposed moves to restrict news reporting of trials.

Because of the extensive international sports boycott of South Africa, foreign athletes sometimes arrive using pseudonyms. Occasionally, with the co-operation of the local media, entire teams compete in a series of matches without the nationality or names of the players being revealed.

Often the competitors for major sports events are not announced until foreign athletes have taken off on their flights to South Africa, and thus are less susceptible to last-minute political pressure.

Even non-sports competitions can take on a cloak-and-dagger aspect.

Arafat in pursuit of a Palestinian state

By Jonathan Wright

TUNIS. (Reuter): Flitting from airport to airport, from a house in Tunis to a guest palace in Berlin or Bamako, holding midnight meetings in any of a dozen Arab capitals — Yasser Arafat roams the world in pursuit of an elusive Palestinian state.

Arafat, with his enormous stamina and resistance to jet-lag, seems even to enjoy his ceaseless travels.

The 59-year-old leader of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) has always been a traveller but the last few months of preparation for a crucial meeting of the Palestinian parliament-in-exile next month has meant even more jetting around the world.

The Palestine National Council is expected to declare an independent state at its meeting in Algiers from Nov 12-14.

Visit

In the five weeks since addressing Socialist members of the European Parliament in Strasbourg on Sept 13, Arafat has visited 25 countries from China to Mali, from Algiers in the west of the Arab world to Baghdad in the east.

"It's an amazing feat. But I think he might be addicted to it and he doesn't know how to stop," an Arab diplomat said.

"I've hardly seen him from one week to another and when I do he's always getting off one plane or onto another," one of his spokesmen told Reuters.

Arafat apparently thinks nothing of jumping on a plane, usually borrowed from the host government, for a single meeting with a head of state in a country several hours away, despite the elaborate security precautions surrounding his every move.

The PLO, fearful of an Israeli assassination attempt, never announces the time of his departure in advance and only when he is on an official visit as Palestini-

Biggest mission since the involvement in Vietnam

US Navy applying lessons learnt in Gulf war

By Richard Pyle

MANAMA, Bahrain. (AP): Emerging from what a senior commander calls a "do-it-yourself war" in the Gulf, the US Navy is absorbing and applying lessons learned in a year of unrelenting tension and bursts of combat.

Drawn into the waters between warring Iran and Iraq with a commitment to defend shipping, the Navy found itself committed to its biggest, costliest mission since the Vietnam war.

Between July 24, 1987 — when the Kuwait supertanker Bridgeton struck a mine while under US escort — and the Iraq-Iran ceasefire on Aug 20, 1988, Navy ships and aircraft clashed with Iranian forces more than a dozen times.

Officers say the Gulf experience, which included the first combat use of many computer and weapons systems, could lead to many changes in procedure, shipboard equipment

and even a revived emphasis on survivability in warship design.

It also is prompting a serious look at more subtle questions such as stress. Sailors in the Gulf were living under a constant state of high alert while performing the exacting technical tasks of missile warfare. Officers often had only seconds to make major decisions.

Stress

Official concern about stress was given special impetus by the July 3 disaster in which the missile cruiser USS Vincennes mistook an Iranian jetliner for a military attack plane and shot it down, killing all 290 aboard.

US investigators said the pressure of first-time combat caused Vincennes radar operators to misinterpret crucial computer data, and recommended that stress and the "human factor" be studied for future training purposes.

Although investigators said the ship's Aegis radar-weapons system worked as intended, the

system is being modified to feed more precise information on aircraft threats.

The Navy also has made or is planning changes in shipboard emergency procedures, damage control and fire-fighting methods as a result of the near-sinking of the missile frigate USS Stark and USS Samuel B. Roberts.

Thirty-seven crewmen were killed on the Stark when it was hit by two Iraqi missiles on May 17, 1987, and 10 Roberts' crewmen were hurt when it was almost ripped in half by an Iranian mine last April 14.

Train

The Gulf inspired the Navy's first use of computer systems to train officers and crews for a specific combat zone. The computers simulated Gulf geography and tactical situations, with tapes of actual radio traffic for added realism.

The United States had kept a small flotilla in the Gulf since 1949 but it quadrupled after US President Ronald Reagan agreed

in mid-1987 to place several Kuwait oil tankers under the US flag and escort them past menacing Iran, which considered Kuwait an Iraqi ally.

The buildup ultimately reached more than 30 warships in the region, spurring similar moves by five West European governments.

US Gen. George B. Crist, head of US Central Command and architect of the operation, said the 600-mile-long (965-kilometre-long) Gulf, crowded with ships, oil rigs and besieged by warring neighbours, was a "learning experience" for the Navy, whose strategies are built on long-range ocean warfare.

Operation

"It was a real do-it-yourself, come-as-you-are operation," said Crist, whose Florida-based command controls US military activities in the Middle East. "There were no books, no doctrine."

The Navy had not run an

ocean convoy since World War II, and the only officers trained for the task were civilian reservists.

Teachers, accountants and merchant seamen were recalled to active duty as liaison officers aboard the Kuwaiti tankers.

Improvising for "guerrilla warfare at sea," Crist hired tugboats as temporary mine sweepers and leased two huge barges as floating combat bases after Arab states rejected United States pleas to use their territory.

Ill-equipped

He said the barges, an idea borrowed from Vietnam, where American forces patrolled from bases in enemy-held areas, showed it was possible to range far afield "without a tremendous base infrastructure ... and still project our power."

Naval officers say the "mobile sea bases" were instrumental in discouraging Iranian shipping raids in the northern Gulf for seven months before the

ceasefire. Secret, night-flying helicopters also caught an Iranian minelayer, proving that Tehran was mining Gulf sea lanes.

Navy ships built to fight submarines and aircraft, were ill-equipped to combat Iranian speedboats and Chinese-made Silkworm missiles, considered the main threats to US convoys.

Gulf-bound warships soon were being fitted with new firepower — machine guns, a laser-sighted Army tank cannon, and radar-guided Phalanx Gatling guns that hurl a storm of shells at incoming missiles.

Even before the July 3 Airbus tragedy, some US officers had criticized the choice of the billion-dollar Vincennes as being too much ship for the Gulf. Aides said, however, that Crist stands by the decision, which was aimed at countering an Iranian missile threat.

Other ideas fizzled or never started.

Nicaraguans on Honduran border keeping their heads down

By Allister Doyle

MURUPUCHI, Nicaragua. (Reuter): Farmers, villagers and soldiers around Murupuchi say they are keeping their heads down to escape mystery bullets which no one admits to shooting.

"When there are big blasts of gunfire, it's scary to go out into the cornfields to work," said Emilio Huete, a farmer near Murupuchi, a hilltop border post that the military says is one of the most dangerous places along the Honduran frontier.

Honduran officials, meanwhile, say Nicaragua is trying to inventing attacks.

Murupuchi, 190 miles (300 km) north of Managua, has been mentioned more often than any other art of the border in recent reports by the Defence Ministry on alleged Honduran aggression almost every day in recent weeks.

The Honduras, like the Nicaraguan government and US-backed Nicaraguan Contra rebels camped nearby in Honduras, deny shooting across the frontier.

"Our troops do not fire across the border, despite frequent provocations," Honduras armed forces spokesman Juan Sierra said in a telephone interview from Tegucigalpa. Honduras has often accused Murupuchi, which he said were caused by bullets now lodged deep in the mud.

Last year, a guard was shot dead at a nearby Nicaraguan border post. Another one was wounded by a bullet at Murupuchi several years ago, he said.

The Nicaraguans ducked behind pine trees. No bullets were heard passing.

Both the Nicaraguan ruling Sandinistas and the Contra rebels who have sought to overthrow them say they are respecting a seven-month truce in their war, while accusing the other of

almost constant violations.

Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega has said Honduras is trying to provoke a border clash to give President Reagan a pretext for a US invasion in the final months of his term.

A border clash might also raise chances of Congressional renewal of aid to the Contras. The Sandinistas say thousands of rebels are camped in Honduras about 30 miles (50 km) east of Murupuchi.

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extra troops were sent to the region.

Sandinista officers said Murupuchi might be subjected to attacks as it commanded a northern invasion from Honduras.

They said that Honduran F-5 jets often violated Nicaraguan airspace in the region, going up to 50 km (30 miles) over the border.

"Sometimes it's hard to sleep," said Gabriel, one of the border guards at Murupuchi. "They fired a mortar the other night, which lit up the sky with a 'whoosh' like an airplane."

Most of the houses close to Murupuchi have been abandoned for years and several were pooh-marked, apparently by bullets.

Contra fighters say they fear that Nicaragua could be planning an offensive against their camps under the pretext of countering aggression from Honduras.

The Sandinistas, meanwhile, have said that Contras' grouping on the border could be planning to attack.

Contra spokesman Bosco Matamoros estimated each rebel fighter has around 20 bullets left. He said this was not enough even for self-defence from Sandinista provocation.

The rebels say around 70 per cent of what they describe as a 17,000-strong Army is in Honduras. Sandinista officials put the Contra strength at 7,000, and say 5,000 of them are in Honduras.

The US Congress cut off the Contras' military aid in February and since then has approved only humanitarian supplies, much of which is carried by lorry along a road which passes between the Honduran border posts and Murupuchi.

He said, however, that no

Sankara's austere legacy fades

By Jean-Loup Flavat

brought us far too much hardship."

Sankara loved making world headlines with his frugal lifestyle. He worked in a run-down hut always open to visitors and drove a modest Renault-5.

Not so Compaore. He rides an open top Cadillac and plans to build a multi-million-dollar presidential mansion with money from Libya, Gabon and the Ivory Coast.

Guarded

He rarely ventures out of a sprawling compound, nicknamed "the hunker," which is guarded by tanks in downtown Ouagadougou.

Gone are the days when Sankara saved money by "sky-hitching" — borrowing a plane from a friendly government to attend international meetings. Compaore has bought a luxury Boeing 727 formerly used by pop star Michael Jackson.

Gone are the twice-weekly compulsory sport sessions for government workers. Gone too is the simple snook, the Faso Dan Fan, which Sankara encouraged people to wear to promote the local cotton industry. Compaore's cabinet ministers now wear expensive French suits.

Construction

"Ouagadougou has changed so much that I hardly recognise it," says a Burkina who recently returned to this city of 400,000 people after five years abroad.

The capital now boasts one of West Africa's most modern indoor markets, a \$14-million project paid for by France, the former colonial ruler. Bars do a roaring trade since Compaore cut the beer price last Christmas.

In the past 15 months the city centre has become a huge building

site with modern high-rises sprouting like mushrooms.

The construction boom reflects a beginning of economic recovery after years of stagnation under Sankara who favoured a state-controlled economy, economists and diplomats say.

Burkina Faso, which used to spurn help from the International Monetary Fund (IMF), is now talking openly to the World Bank about a medium-term structural adjustment programme.

'US will remain Israel's ally'

Stop objecting to arms sales to Arabs: Reagan

LOS ANGELES, Oct 29, (Reuters): President Reagan, backing a remark by Defence Secretary Frank Carlucci, said yesterday that American Jews and members of Congress should not object when the United States proposes arms sales to moderate Arab nations.

"Our judgement should be respected on when we have decided that we can make a sale of that kind," said Reagan, responding to a question from the audience following a speech to the Los Angeles World Affairs Council.

Carlucci, in an Oct 21 speech to the American Arab Affairs Council in Huntington, West Virginia, said critics in Congress and elsewhere should stop objecting to major arms deals with friendly Arab nations.

Though he did not mention Jewish Americans in the speech, some Jewish community leaders took the remark to refer to them.

Reagan said he understood the concerns of Israelis and

American Jews about such arms sales.

He said that for peace to succeed in the Middle East, "I think they (Arabs) have to see us as being willing to be fair and friend of theirs, just as they now see us... as the best friend of Israel."

He said the United States always specifies in such deals that the arms be used only in self-defence and added: "If anyone ever violated that contract... Israel would have an ally in the United States."

"I don't think any country has had a stronger ally than Israel has in the United States of America, and it's going to remain that way, I believe," he said.

Hopes

Reagan in his speech also called on his successor in the White House to retain his foreign policy agenda.

Reagan said this year may mark a turning point in the cold war due to Soviet moves towards

democratic reforms and US foreign policy successes.

"Right now we have hopes — and for the moment we must remember that they are only hopes — that our children might see 1988 as the turning point in the great twilight struggle known as the cold war," he said.

Gorbachev

Reagan, with only a few months remaining in his presidency, interrupted a week-long campaign swing on behalf of Soviet candidates in the Nov 8 elections to make the foreign policy address.

He called the movement of the Soviet system toward the adoption of democratic reforms remarkable but cautioned in the next breath of threats to continued progress.

Reagan also said it would be a great setback if Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev was unable, for whatever reason, to continue on the path he has sought of greater openness and democratic



Reagan: judgement

reforms for the Soviet Union.

Asked how the absence of Gorbachev from the Soviet leadership would affect the pace of Soviet reforms, Reagan replied:

"Well, of course, it would depend on who follows him but I think it would be a great setback if anything happens to prevent him from continuing the programme that he has set out."

"I hope that he can continue and will continue on this path," Reagan added.

Though Gorbachev has "a built-in structure opposed to him... the people in the street seem to be on his side," Reagan said.

Israeli elections are still a toss-up

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Oct 29, (Agencies): The Israeli general election on Nov 1 is still a toss-up between the centre-left Labour and rightist Likud parties, according to opinion polls published yesterday.

Three polls in the Maariv newspaper showed contradictory findings. One predicted Likud would lead the next government, one slightly favoured Labour and the third survey was inconclusive.

A poll by the Modin Ezrahi group gave the most decisive edge to the right wing. It said Likud would win 43 seats to Labour's 33, and with smaller right-wing parties would gain a total of 65 seats in the 120-seat Parliament.

Minority

A Tazpit survey said Labour would defeat Likud by 43 seats to 40 and the right wing would garner only 56 seats.

Without the help of religious parties, however, Labour could form only a minority government with the support of two far-left, mainly Arab parties that have been ruled out as coalition

partners, the poll indicated.

The third poll, by the Israeli Institute, said Labour would win between 41 and 43 seats and Likud would gain 39 to 41, but could not say who would form the government due to a relatively high number of undecided voters.

The floating vote still appears to be a significant factor, just three days ahead of ballot day, pollsters said.

Dead option

Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir said yesterday an international conference on the Middle East will be a dead option if his Likud bloc wins Israel's election.

Speaking in an interview with the Associated Press, Shamir said a Likud victory would force Arab leaders to rethink their opposition to direct talks with Israel.

"If I am elected it will become clear that this (international conference) option doesn't exist anymore, and therefore, the chances of resuming the negotiations in the framework of Camp David will re-emerge," Shamir said.

US commands arrest of Palestinians

WASHINGTON, Oct 29, (AP): The United States yesterday commanded West Germany's arrest of 14 suspected Palestinians and Sudan's conviction of five Palestinians for attacks.

"The Sudanese court's courageous decision is an important action in bringing the rule of law to bear," said State Department spokeswoman Phyllis Oakley.

Attack

The spokesman said the worst clashes took place in Shan state, in the northeast where seven government soldiers and 10 guerrillas were killed, and in northern Kachin state where four government troops were killed. Ten guerrillas were also killed.

About a dozen small insurgent groups have been fighting for autonomy and political rights in their regions since Burma won its independence from Britain in 1948.

Imelda invites US officials to fly with her

HONOLULU, Oct 29, (AP): Imelda Marcos said she invited US officials to fly with her to New York today as proof she would not flee the United States to avoid federal racketeering charges.

However, she said she and her husband, deposed Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos, someday expect to return to their homeland.

"There are rumours that once airborne and out of radar range, I might flee out of the United States," Mrs Marcos said in a prepared statement released by a spokesman.

"In order to assure everybody of our destination, I am inviting the FBI, Federal Aviation Administration and the INS to have their men accompany us in the plane," she said. "In addition, I wish to state that since we were brought here, we expect to be brought back to our country as our human right to dignity."

US attorney Dan Bent said no federal officials would accompany Mrs Marcos on the private jet that a Honolulu tobacco heiress loaned for the 5,000-mile (8,000-kms) journey.

Escorts

"There will be no federal escorts on the plane. She doesn't require them," Bent said, refusing to detail what surveillance Mrs Marcos requires.

As Mrs Marcos prepared for her first trip out of Hawaii since being exiled nearly three years ago, aides struggled to maintain

the secrecy of her departure time and itinerary.

Suites have been booked at the Waldorf Astoria for the Marcos entourage, which includes a nurse, secretary, lawyers and several close friends, said Marcos' spokesman Gerardo Trinidad, who released the statement.

"I am grateful to the members of the Filipino-American community in New York and surrounding areas for their concern for my privacy and security," said Mrs Marcos. "At the same time, they insist I stay at the Waldorf Astoria at their own expense. To all of them, a million thanks."

Indict

The Marcoses were indicted Oct 21 on federal racketeering charges accusing them of looting more than \$100 million from the Philippines and using it to buy New York real estate. They were to be arraigned Monday in Maui-han.

Bond defence lawyers convinced US district judge John F. Keenan that Marcos, 71, was too frail to make the long flight for such a simple legal proceeding, which basically consists of entering a plea. His arraignment has been postponed until at least after he is examined by a government physician.

However, Keenan ruled Mrs Marcos, 59, was fit enough to make the trip.

Defence lawyers said she would plead innocent

Maghreb states pledge to work for greater union

FEZ, Morocco, Oct 29, (Reuter): Five North African states — Algeria, Morocco, Mauritania, Tunisia and Libya — have agreed to work for Maghreb union by co-ordinating their foreign, economic and financial policies.

A statement issued at the end of a high-level meeting of the five countries yesterday said proposals for co-operation similar to Western Europe's Common Market would be put to a summit of North African heads of state early next year.

The closing statement, carried by the official Moroccan news agency MAP, said plans for har-

monising education policies and guaranteeing citizens the right of free movement and residence would also be submitted.

Maghreb leaders met in Algiers last May and breathed new life into an age-old dream of regional unity.

They set up working groups to examine possibilities for harmonising policies in all fields.

The findings were submitted to North African officials, including prime ministers and ministers of finance and foreign affairs, who met in Morocco on Thursday to plan the next Maghreb summit.

Lovers marry after 40 years of separation

BEIJING, Oct 29, (AP): Love never faded for a man from Taiwan and woman from mainland China who finally married after being engaged — but separated — for more than 40 years, the official newspaper has reported.

Liang Yaouz, the bridegroom from Taiwan, and his wife, Hua Yixian, were married recently in the western China city of Lanzhou, where Hua worked as a librarian, the China Daily newspaper reported.

Liang and Hua are both in their 60s now.

The couple, both from southern China's Guizhou province, met at a university in the early 1940s and decided to marry after the communist victory. Both were active in the Communist Party.

But Liang was arrested by the Nationalists while doing underground work in Shanghai. He was forced to move to Taiwan in 1948, a year before the National-

Burma's fate lies in hands of military, says coup leader

BANGKOK, Oct 29, (UPI): Burma's military leader General Saw Maung has insisted that the country's fate still lies in the hands of the military and told graduating military officers they must continue to organise the people, official Radio Rangoon said.

The report also said that 15 government troops were killed in 37 clashes with ethnic insurgents between Oct 22 and 27.

"It would be absolutely wrong to assume that because members of the defence forces are no longer allowed to be members of political parties, they have no responsibility to 'organise the people,'" the radio quoted Saw Maung as saying yesterday during a graduation ceremony at the National Defence College.

Until Sept 16, most military officers were members of the Socialist Programme Party that had ruled Burma since 1962.

Fate

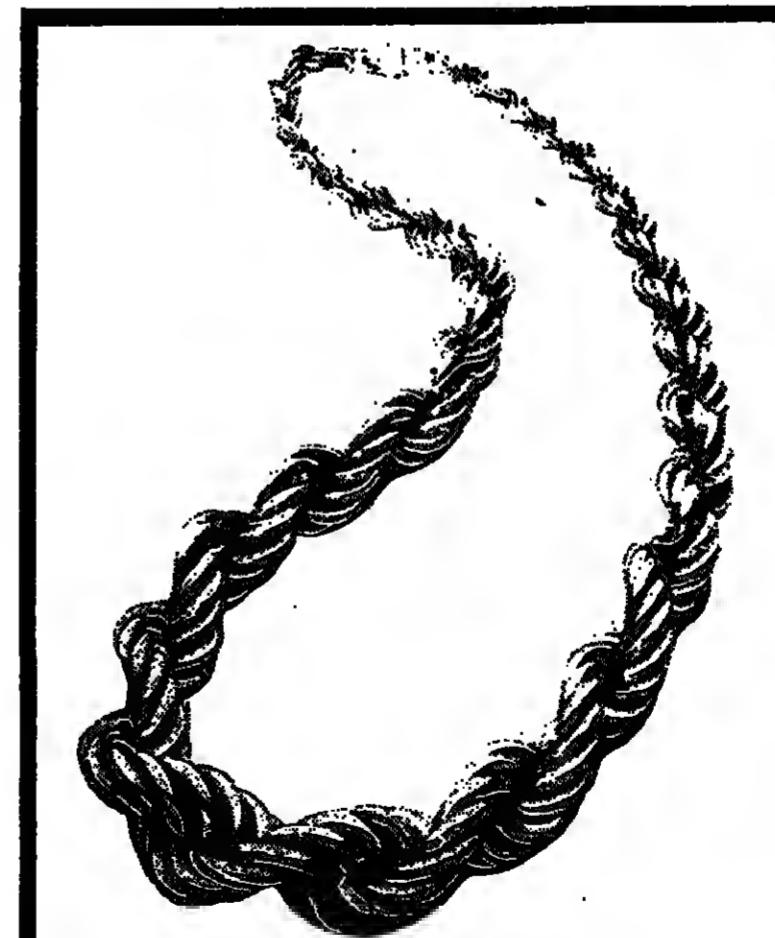
The country's fate now lies in the hands of the defence forces, he said. "If the defence forces disintegrate, the country will disintegrate as well."

Saw Maung repeated promises to hold democratic elections and said all members of the armed forces would be free to vote as they wished.

He said ethnic insurgents in Burma's border areas had been losing strength, but have stepped up their activities recently, taking advantage of Burma's political unrest.

"The insurgents will be completely crushed when the defence forces obtain the full encouragement and support of

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SHIPPING

Senator sues jeepney owners

SEN. Joseph E. Estrada filed a P1.1 million civil damage suit against the owners of a passenger jeepney for the deep cut he suffered in the face "that became a damaging factor to my movie career" as a result of the accident last May.

Estrada said that the deep cut with five stitches near the right eyebrow "prejudiced my earning capacity and my high pay as a movie superstar."

At about 4:30 p.m. last May 7, Estrada was driving his Nissan-Datsun car when the jeepney, allegedly being driven by Ramos at high speed and with faulty breaks, and humped the senator's car at the intersection of Epifanio de los Santos Avenue (EDSA) and Ortigas Ave in Mandaluyong.

Estrada and his companion, Benedicto Flores, suffered serious injuries in the body that required long medical treatment in a hospital and at home. The car, he said, suffered extensive damage to the body and accessories.

He said that "despite our repeated written and oral demands, the owners of the jeepney still refused to pay the consequential claims for damages."

Japanese signs at Ninoy airport

AIRPORT customs authorities said billboard signs on customs rules and regulations in Japanese will soon be posted around the a rival area of the Ninoy Aquino International Airport (NAIA).

With this innovation, Samson said, Japanese tourists will not have a hard time dealing with the customs at the airport.

The customs billboards will explain to the tourists may bring in subject to or without customs duties and taxes. They will also guide incoming passengers on what to do in case they have currencies to be brought back when they leave the country.

'You can't bring out P15,000'

FOUR Singaporean tourists were stopped by Ninoy Aquino International Airport (NAIA) authorities from bringing out some P15,000 they had brought in.

The Singaporean tourists were told by Customs and Central Bank employees they could only bring out of the airport P500 each.

They said it was all the money they had. If they couldn't bring it out of the airport, they would have nothing to spend for their stay.

"It's your money. Why are you preventing us to spend it here," they told Central Bank employee Dionisio Camua.

Camua said he was only implementing a Central Bank circular which prohibits incoming and outgoing passengers from bringing in or out more than P500.

The Singaporeans can still get the money back, Camua said.

12,000 illegal Pinoys in Taiwan

ABOUT 12,000 Filipinos are working in Taiwan illegally. Philippine Overseas Employment Administration (POEA) chief Tomas Achacoso revealed recently.

The Filipinos, Achacoso said, entered Taiwan as tourists and went into hiding after six months when their visas expired.

Most of the Filipinos, the POEA chief said, work as household helpers, construction labourers or waitresses.

He said because the Philippine government does not have labour and bilateral agreements with Taiwan, the workers' stay there is illegal.

Peso crashes to record low

THE peso dropped last week to a record low since 1986 amid suspicions that the Central Bank could no longer defend its value against the US dollar due to dwindling reserves.

Although the CB and some bankers blamed the fall to foreign exchange speculation, they said that the seasonal demand for dollars as imports are at their peak was the reason for the decline.

But the peppery Ronald Mag-sanoc instigated a 10-point Oiler rally to narrow the gap, 87-90, before the period ended.

The Milk Masters, however,

Please stop, let's not go on: passengers' plea to captain

By Kathleen Callo

TACLOBAN, Philippines. (Reuter) Survivors from Dona Marilyn, a Philippine ferry sunk by typhoon said passengers pleaded with crew to take shelter but the captain steamed on while broadcasting 'Hail Marys' over loudspeakers.

"Some passengers were crying shouting 'please stop, let's not go on,' said a teenage girl who reached her with a group of 138 aboard the rescue ship Cebu Princess.

Alberto Oledan, a 29-year-old construction worker, said passengers urged the crew of the 2,855-ton inter-island ferry Dona Marilyn to take shelter as typhoon Ruby battered the Philippines. The captain dropped anchor briefly and then proceeded.

"Passengers were shouting at the crew and the captain not to



Survivors of the Dona Marilyn transfer to a coast guard vessel after being adrift for more than three days. Many are still missing.

leave but the crew members did not listen," Oledan said.

"I heard the passengers tell the

'The captain is not stupid. He's trained to do those things. If they were pleading I'm sure he tried to do something' — company official.

crew that 'it is better to stay here, let's not go on,'" said Florencio Lugo, a 62-year-old farmer who

Passengers said the crew played tape recordings over the ship's loudspeaker of "Our

Father" and "Hail Mary" as Ruby pummeled the 22-year-old vessel on Monday before sinking it.

About 200 people have been found alive since the Dona Marilyn sank. The operators said there were 481 passengers and crew aboard but survivors said there were probably many unregistered passengers.

"I cannot believe it. It's normal procedure to take shelter," an official of the owners commented.

"The captain is not stupid. He's trained to do those things. It's common sense," Sulpicio Lines district manager Carlos Go said in Manila.

"If they were pleading, I'm sure he tried to do something."

The government ordered the company to explain why the ferry left Manila despite typhoon alert and President Corazon Aquino said she would suspend the company's licence if investigation showed the boat was at fault.

The Dona Marilyn was a sister ship of the Dona Paz, which went down with the loss of more than 3,000 lives following a collision with a small oil tanker last December. It was the world's worst peacetime disaster at sea.

Rescue teams searching for Dona Marilyn survivors found



A survivor from the Dona Marilyn ferry is helped by rescue workers.

dozens of bruised and exhausted passengers on a string of small volcanic island, the coast guard reported.

'There was no warning of danger. There was no instruction. The crew just attended to their own survival' — a survivor.

According to accounts from survivors, several spent up to 20 hours clinging to wreckage. Many of the dead were small children who went down with the ship when it was flipped over by Ruby in the Visayas Sea.

died," said Gerard Jude Gerodiaz, 17, a university student from Manila.

Many said there was no call to abandon ship.

"There was no warning of danger. There was no instruction.

The crew just attended to their own survival," said Lito Pedrosa, 28, a mason from the central Philippine island Samar.

A 27-year-old woman, Aelia Gallaron, said: "The people panicked because there was no announcement of what to do."

She said she and 14 others tried to climb into a rubber raft after jumping overboard but it burst.

About 120 others died in Ruby's wake, including 17 killed by a landslide in Quezon Province, south east of Manila, on Tuesday. Officials placed

damage to crops and property at about \$75 million.

US Navy accepting Filipino applicants

THE United States Navy Recruiting Station at the Subic Naval Base, Olongapo City, will be accepting applicants from Filipino citizens who want to join the US Navy from Oct 1-31, 1988, the US Navy announced recently.

Applicants should be male, born between 1965 to 1971; single and without dependents, and must be at least a high school graduate. Additional schooling is desirable but not required. (Graduating high school students are also qualified to apply).

Applicants must be able to read, understand and speak English fluently, and must be physically fit according to US Navy standards.

To apply, candidates must submit a recent 2-1/2x3 photograph. On the back of the photograph, print name neatly (first, middle and surname), with (underlined); date of birth and complete current mailing address including RP mail code. Sign the photograph which constitutes the application for recruitment. Personal letters should not be included.

Those who are interested to apply in the US Navy are invited to visit or write for free information and assistance: Officer-in-Charge, BPQ, Rm 240, Isabel Building, F. Cayco St., Espana, Manila (in front of UST). Tel. 731-07-11 local 34.

The US Navy is accepting applications once in every three years. The next will be in 1991.

Honasan, men seen in Angeles

SAN FERNANDO, Pampanga: Former Army colonel Gregorio "Gringo" Honasan, leader of last year's failed Aug 28 coup, and his men eluded military operations against them by fleeing Angeles City for an unknown destination said a report at Camp Olivares.

The military also said that the military operatives sent to track down Honasan and his men failed to catch the coup leader and his men.

The presence of Honasan and his men in Angeles was reported to the Pampanga PC authorities by a PC captain.

PBA basketball

Alaska strangulates Shell

ALASKA Milk flexed its awesome rebounding might last week to strangle Shell Rimula-X Diesel 134-115, in the PBA Reinforced Conference at the ULTRA.

And to top it all, the Milk Masters even used a breakneck run-and-gun game to post their fourth win in sixth outings.

Providing the extra muscle to Alaska was debutant import David Boone, who pulled down 19 of the Milkmaster's 59 rebounds. The burly Boone, who said he was five pounds overweight, also canned 28 points in a no-relief gala performance.

The Oilers who averaged 54 rebounds during the first round were limited to only 39 last night as they dropped to a 5-2 record and second place, behind San Miguel Beer (4-1).

Behind the brilliant show of Willie Bland, Alaska unloaded a 14-4 run to move on top, 88-77, late in the third quarter.

But the peppery Ronald Mag-sanoc instigated a 10-point Oiler rally to narrow the gap, 87-90, before the period ended.

The Milk Masters, however, took advantage of the absence of Shell import Derrick Rowland, who incurred his fifth foul, to step on the gas and rippled the

Dole asks: where is the money for bases?

and housing investment guarantees.

"Just how that money is going to be found in a foreign operation budget already carved to the bone to meet other baserights and peacekeeping commitments is not readily apparent to this senator," Dole said in a Senate speech.

The Reagan administration will have to ask Congress to provide the aid funds out of a tight budget.

Dole said the next Congress and the new president should work together early next year on

a new global basing strategy and finding the money to support it.

He said Congress and the president should also set a goal "to ensure that our allies and friends — who have been getting a free ride — bear their fair share of this enormous burden of projecting American power around the world, to protect freedom around the world."

The new accord, had become

possible only after the Philippines had been made to understand that its negotiating tactics of "bluff and brinkmanship" had been getting nowhere, Dole said.

The Philippines had sought \$1.2 billion a year in aid and had threatened to terminate the bases agreement.

Last July, Dole accused Manila of "brinkmanship and bluff" in the bilateral review of the RP-US Military Bases Agreement.

Dole hurled the charge after Manila indefinitely suspended the review amid sharp disagreements over how much Washington should pay for the use of Clark, Subic and four other military installations in the Philippines.

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NRI bond to be on offer from Nov 14

As part of its continuing commitment to serve non-resident Indians better, State Bank of India is offering yet another outstanding investment opportunity. The offer of NRI bonds 1988 will open all over the world on Nov 14, 1988 and close on Dec 15. The issue is being managed by SBI Capital Markets Limited, according to the SBI press release.

NRI bonds have been specially designed to meet the needs of non-resident Indians and the offer is in keeping with State Bank of India's philosophy of providing specially tailored services to NRIs.

The bonds now being issued by the bank provide the answer to the needs of non-resident Indians who have been on the lookout for an investment opportunity in India that ensures attractive returns, freedom from all tax liabilities in India, protection against any likely loss in the exchange value of the Indian rupee and complete security.

Allotment

The bonds are denominated in US dollar and are issued exclusively for non-resident Indians, maturing after 7 years from the date of allotment. The principal as well as the interest thereon is payable on maturity in non-repatriable Indian rupees.

The bonds will be in denominations of \$500, \$1,000, \$5,000 and \$10,000 to suit the convenience of NRIs.

The bonds shall bear interest at 1 per cent above the rate applicable to 3-year FCNR dollar deposits in India as on the date of opening of the issue. At the current 3-year FCNR dollar deposit rate of 10.5 per cent per annum, the interest rate for bonds works out at 11.5 per cent per annum. Interest will be compounded half yearly in dollars and will be payable along with the principal on maturity after 7 years in Indian rupees.

Interest at the prescribed rate calculated in dollars will be payable in Indian rupees from the date of receipt of application.



D. M. Ghosh, chairman of the State Bank of India announces the launching of NRI bonds at a press conference in Bombay. Picture shows from (left to right) Bharat Bhattacharya, D. N. Ghosh and D. Basu, managing director of SABICAP, managers to the issue.

tion to the date preceding the date of allotment (excluding transit period of 7 days). The investment therefore starts earning right away.

As bonds will continue to be denominated in dollars till their maturity, investment therein is fully protected against any likely loss in the exchange value of the Indian rupee vis-a-vis US dollars, but after the initial lock-in period it remains virtually on call.

The bonds can be easily transferred to any other NRI simply by endorsement, delivery and registration with the issuing office. No permission or clearance would be required from any authority in India for such a transfer.

Loan against the bonds would also be available from banks in India after the initial lock-in period.

NRI bonds would be an ideal instrument for gift. These can be easily gifted to a close relative (even a resident Indian) after a lock-in period of 3 years without attracting any provisions of the Indian Gift Tax Act.

Neither the donor nor the recipient would be subject to gift tax, wealth tax or tax on income from the bonds until maturity.

All the attractive features of the bonds like complete tax exemption, loan facility and continued denomination in dollars as well as the recipient.

In order to provide liquidity to the investors, premature encashment of bonds will also be permitted on agreed terms and conditions after an initial lock-in period of three years.

dollars will be available to the recipient as well. With this investment, it would be possible for the NRI to provide a reliable and attractive financial security for a dependent resident in India.

Advantages

These bonds could be very advantageous to NRIs for setting apart funds for making a long term investment in India like starting an industry or acquiring real estate, a home or a farm, even if such an investment decision is to be taken a few years from now.

Of course, if for any reason there is a change in plan, the bonds can always be easily transferred at any time to another NRI who may be in need of these bonds for use of rupee funds in India. This feature gives the investor tremendous flexibility and can keep his options open after having invested in the bonds.

Application for NRI bonds may be made by the Non-Resident Indian in his own name, or jointly with another NRI, or jointly with a close relative resident in India with the arrangement for the proceeds to be payable to the "former" or "survivor".

All the attractive features of the bonds like complete tax exemption, loan facility and continued denomination in dollars as well as the recipient.

Scheme offers more incentives to woo Indians to boost their remittances

NRI bonds to protect investment value

By M.C. Bose

THE announcement of the issue of NRI bonds has aroused considerable interest among the non-resident Indians. The main attractions being mentioned are a higher return on the investment, full exemption from taxes, protection of investment value, and a high degree of safety of investment. On some of these Arab Times sought the views of T. J. Mathew, a Kuwait-based economist. Mathew was an economist with the State Bank of India at its central office.

1. What has been the backdrop of introducing this new investment vehicle?

Introduction of NRI bond is yet another positive move of the government of India to attract the savings of Indians living abroad. Ever since the oil price boom of the '70s remittances of Indians financed a sizeable portion of the current account deficit of the balance of payments. Such remittances are now nearly \$3,000 million per annum.

Inflow

Although impressive this inflow of foreign remittances, the government's feeling may be that the potential for tapping this source of foreign exchange remains substantially high.

Given the deterioration of India's balance of payments and external financing outlook, offering further incentives to woo the Indians to increase their remittances to India is nothing but a logical move.

But there is another side of the story. Since the introduction of the foreign currency non-resident scheme (FCNR), the government always feared that such deposits tend to move out of the country as the balances held in foreign currencies are repatriable. At least theoretically there existed a possibility of losing the foreign exchange held by the government in the event of repatriation.

This fear is not misplaced. Note that Reserve Bank's very attempt to keep the interest rates high will weaken further in terms of major currencies.

By any standard, rupee is a weak currency. A combination of rising inflation, the rapidly deteriorating balance of payments position and an increasingly adverse international financing outlook suggests that rupee will weaken further in terms of major currencies.

What is more, if an investor finds NRI bond yield attractive enough, he can lock it for a longer period in case he considers the prospect of a downward pressure on dollar interest rates. FCNR deposits are accepted for a maximum term of 7 years.

currencies. Such weakening is absolutely essential in order to enhance the country's export potential.

The official strategy seems to effect a de facto depreciation of the rupee through arbitrarily fixing the exchange value in terms of an undisclosed basket of currencies, among which the dollar is known to have a significant weighting.

In order to understand the inherent weakness of the rupee one has to take a look at the movement of the rupee vis-a-vis the dollar in the past.

In 1970, one dollar was equivalent to Rs. 7.50 and in 1980 it was Rs. 10.23. By 1985 it was Rs. 12.37 and now in 1988 it is equivalent to Rs. 14.90.

Barring a brief spell in 1986 and 1987 — when the rupee's overall depreciation against the dollar was not substantial as dollar itself lost over 30 percent of its value internationally — rupee dropped at an annual average rate of 6 per cent per annum. Taking a look at the period ahead even any conservative projection may suggest a depreciation of the rupee by 4-5 per cent per year.

Funds

A second attraction is that an investor can enjoy a "tax holiday" for a period of seven years if he decides to change his status from a non-resident to a resident.

Investment is free from wealth tax and interest income is free from income tax. Additionally, there is a gift tax exemption without any limit.

On the plus side the best that an investor can get by investing in NRI bond is protecting his money from a possible erosion in the value of money during maturity period of the bond (seven years). That is to say, by keeping in dollars an investor can protect his investment without allowing his investment to depreciate in the event of the rupee weakening against major currencies.

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3. Can you see the incentives offered under the NRI bond scheme as a part of a strategy to curb flow of funds through unofficial channels?

It is very difficult to answer this question as remittances through unofficial channels are an outcome of a set of factors such as gold price differentials, the extent of smuggling of foreign goods and laundering of black money.

In view of these, such unofficial flow will continue until the government cracks down all the economic offenders operating from India and abroad.

However, there exists a strong case for offering greater incentives to non-resident Indians. It may be noted that India like any other developing country faces the problem of foreign exchange constraint owing to the lag between demand for foreign exchange and supply of it. That is to say the availability of foreign exchange does not meet the demand for foreign exchange at any point of time. As such, a unit of foreign exchange will fetch a premium, if it is allowed to be traded in the foreign exchange market (assuming that no foreign exchange control is in existence.) The premium will vary depending on the demand pressure.

Going by this logic, one unit of foreign exchange earned by an Indian abroad commands a value higher than what he can get if he converts it officially at the ruling exchange rate.

An Indian working abroad when he sends his income through the official banking channels he does not get the scarcity value of foreign exchange currently. Hence the argument is that a non-resident Indian must be given a portion of this scarcity value in order to induce him to transfer his savings to India. Probably the government's move to offer NRI bonds must be seen as a part of an overall plan to share the scarcity value of foreign exchange partly, if not fully.

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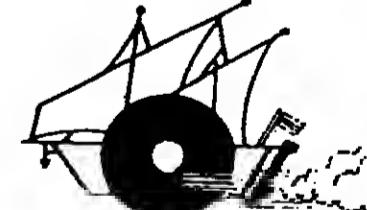
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Al Mulla Security Services maintains the highest standards

Security is the key word: Ron Hibbert

AL MULLA Security Services Co. has now been in operation eight years. The security centre which is the first of its type in the Kuwait private sector is fully equipped with the latest electronic surveillance equipment and alarm system.

Ron Hibbert, the General Manager of the Al Mulla Security Services Co., has said the centre has the facilities for servicing the company's cash carrying armoured vehicles, vaulting, salary packing, security and data storage.

Due to the increased workload and in order to keep up with modern technology the service moved into a new Security Centre in Ardya on February 9.

Hibbert said the Al Mulla Security Services Company is dedicated in providing professional security services and uses the expertise and management staff provided by Securicor International, one of the world's largest security companies, with over 50 years experience in the security field. Securicor employs more than 30,000 people in 18 countries around the world.

Security

The security control and vaulting centre of the Al Mulla Security Services has been designed to a high degree of security, incorporating the latest electronic security systems available, including sophisticated intruder alarms and closed circuit television. It is manned 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and is in constant

contact with a fleet of radio-controlled vehicles and security guarding force ready to respond to any emergency situation that may arise.

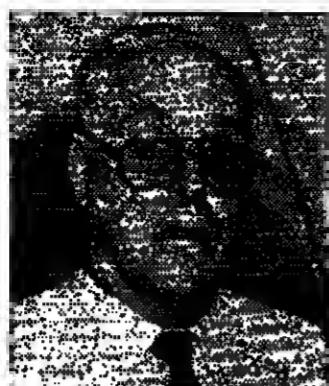
Al Mulla's clients can be assured that their valuables and premises are protected by highly trained staff.

He said a multinational guarding force is uniformed and trained in the highest international standards to carry out security duties in a variety of locations, including hotels, construction sites, residential and camp complexes as well as commercial banks and industrial premises. The fire hazard section includes the installation and maintenance of fire prevention, detection, fire-fighting and alarm systems. This service is tailor-made to suit each client's individual requirements. All the guards are fully trained in all aspects of security, including fire and flood prevention.

Growth

The biggest growth are in the Al Mulla Security Services Company has been in the transit of cash using the group's fleet of armoured vehicles. The crews for this service are selected from experienced and trusted guards who undergo a rigorous training schedule before joining the force.

A radio-controlled fleet of armoured trucks, the largest in the Middle East, constructed and designed to international standards, operates round-the-clock transporting cash and other valuables throughout



Ron Hibbert: General Manager, Al Mulla Security Services Company

Kuwait for various clients including all major banks, national, commercial and industrial companies.

Other services offered by Al Mulla Security Services include security shredding, computer data collection, alarm installation, electronic surveillance equipment including electronic entry systems.

Salary packing is a service designed to help companies that employ a large number of staff. Al Mulla Security Company will collect the payroll and salary cheque on an agreed schedule and prepare the individual employee's salary packet to exact requirements at their security centre. It will then deliver in bulk to the retaining company or pay out to individual employees on the company's premises irrespective of the number of locations.

Armoured trucks will also undertake to transport any

where within Kuwait loads of high value, such as gold bullion and jewellery. Using escort vehicles with radio communication between each vehicle and the security is achieved while the valuable are in transit.

As part of its expansion programme the division is currently supplying, installing and maintaining electronic security systems which include computerised access control, fence perimeter detection and industrial control systems incorporating infra-red ultrasonic microwaves and seismic sensors.

In order to keep abreast of the national and international banks requirements, Al Mulla security staff are continually being trained in new services including the first line servicing and replenishment of Automatic Teller Machines and other bank support services.

Hibbert has been working with this company since 1985. He said Securicor started in UK in 1935 and the company has been operating in about 18 countries in the world including the Far East, Africa, Europe, West Indies and the Middle East.

"We also introduced new Valiant Control Panel system in Kuwait last year and one of the leading banks in Kuwait has already installed this system recently," Hibbert added.

He said a multinational guarding force is uniformed and trained to the highest international standards to carry out security duties.

Kuwait economy on a steady growth path

Bright forecast for economic upturn

THERE is a growing belief that the consolidation process, initiated four years ago with the aim of putting the Kuwaiti economy on a more sustainable growth path, has started to bear fruits.

For the first time since 1982, the non-oil gross domestic product has shown a positive growth in 1986, notwithstanding the collapse in the world oil market. Value-added in the non-oil sectors amounted, then to KD3,156 million, up 6.4 per cent on the previous year, according to Kuwait Interim Economic and Financial Report published by NBK.

Overall GDP was, however, down 15.6 per cent to KD4,998 million, under the impact of a considerably reduced oil sector contribution. Conversely, the share of non-oil activities in total GDP showed a substantial increase to 63 per cent in 1986, up from 50 per cent in the previous year.

Among the fast-growing non-oil sectors, manufacturing — including petrochemicals — registered a substantial 47 per cent increase to KD555 million.

Construction, in contrast, continued to reflect subdued activity with the sector's value-added amounting to KD156 million, down from KD198 million in the previous year.

Trade, wholesale and retail, suffered a limited KD30 million drop to KD470 million. Other major sectors witnessed no significant change.

Headway

The considerable headway achieved in the implementation of the "Difficult Credit Facilities Settlement Programme" is gradually restoring confidence to the financial sector.

Initially, the programme — which guarantees the rights of depositors and the banks' shareholders' equity as of end-December 1985 — has had a slow start. But gradually, as debtors' sentiment turned more positive, the enforcement of the scheme gathered pace.

Despite the appalling UK trade numbers, present efforts to squeeze domestic demand, which has seen commercial bank interest rates rise from 7.5 per cent in May to currently 12 per cent, has served to underpin sterling.

In a separate development, the Kuwait capital market, after a 5-year moratorium, has been reopened for foreign borrowers with the launch of a KD20 million (\$71 million), 7-year public bond issue for the Republic of Finland, the largest ever single public issue launched in the KD bond market. This was soon followed by a KD30 million (\$106 million) 7-year public issue arranged and lead-managed by the National Bank of Kuwait on behalf of the World Bank.

Tangible

Last year saw the first tangible results of the three-year-old effort to rationalise public finance. The closing accounts for 1986/87 show, indeed, that the drop in total revenues in KD1,731 million was, to some extent, offset by a substantial eight per cent drop in actual spending. This leaves a strictly defined deficit of KD1,129 million.

The new budget for 1987/88, announced on June 30, 1987, is a mere confirmation of the government's fiscal orientation set in the previous year. The anticipated gain in revenues (3.5 per cent) — mainly derived from former oil prices — will be used to finance a similar increase (3.4 per cent) in spending.

Development expenditure will benefit from a significantly higher increase of 7.5 per cent, clearly reflecting authorities' concern to support the productive sectors.

Besides, wages and salaries are set to increase by 10 per cent.

The resulting budget deficit,

scheduled at KD1,179 million, will probably turn out to be much smaller than projected.

It is of significance to note that the Kuwait State Reserves, estimated at KD25 billion by mid-1986, continue to provide a comfortable cushion to the country's public finance.

About KD14.3 billion are held in the Reserve Fund for Future Generations and the remaining KD10.7 billion are held in the State General Reserve.

In a move aimed at providing partial funding to the budget deficit as much as introducing more flexibility in the money market and financial system, the Council of Ministers approved, last September, legislation enabling the government to launch a public debt programme in the tune of KD400 million.

The new instruments will be issued to the bearer and may be purchased by Kuwaitis as well as non-Kuwaiti individuals and institutions.

Underwriting will, however, be restricted to banks and financial institutions subject to Central Bank supervision. The debt instruments will range from short-term 91-day Treasury Bills up to 10-year Treasury Bonds. As from Nov 21, the Central Bank started to invite tenders for the debt issues. This proved to be a great success, with the third issue (the last in 1987) attracting bids for KD722 million, 4.8 times the total on offer.

From a different perspective, 1987 was recorded as a particularly eventful year in terms of the Kuwaiti dinar exchange and interest rates. Breaking

with a two-year-old bearish undertone, the KD staged a marked recovery, not only against the weakening dollar but also vis-a-vis other major currencies.

In May, a downward adjustment brought the KD off a 7-year record high of 268.86 fils, but left it at levels significantly firmer than in the previous year.

Decline

The sharp decline of the dollar, in the wake of the sharp fall in the international stock markets, gave a strong boost to the dinar against the dollar but resulted in a relatively modest slide vis-a-vis other currencies.

Finally, as regards interest rates, monetary authorities were keen on installing a more flexible and market-oriented system. In March 1987, the Central Bank announced the overhaul of the 10-year-old lending interest rate structure.

In the meantime, it was endeavouring to guide money market rates downwards. The latest such move, enacted in November, was 1/2 per cent cut in the discount rate to five per cent. For the foreseeable future, the market expects KD rates to steady around their present low levels.

The world's stock markets suffered a major setback in October 1987 when in a few days the gains of the previous months — years in some cases — were completely reversed. The crisis began on what was called Black Monday, on October 19, when the US Dow Jones Industrial index plunged by a record 22.6 per cent, 508 points, conjuring a spectre of a 1930's style depression.

Pace of global economic growth slows

oscillations.

With interest rates in the US for the immediate future appearing to level out in tandem to interest rate rises elsewhere, the recent upward momentum in the dollar has probably dissipated. In addition, strong central authority intervention to cap the dollar's rise suggest that policy makers are reluctant to see the US move higher, according to Currency Monitor.

Although economic growth may be trending lower, inflation concerns remain evident.

Therefore, towards year end, US interest rates could tick upwards which may provide the dollar with some marginal gains.

However, longer term, the US unit remains vulnerable on the downside with the process of adjustment of the global trade and economic imbalances continuing to be painfully slow.

Both in Japan and West Germany, export performance has remained resilient to their currency's present level with the trade and current account surpluses in both countries for

1988 unlikely to be significantly lower than last year's outturn. As a result, in order to suppress export growth and to encourage imports into these economies, a further appreciation of both the DM and Yen by varying degrees is going to be necessary.

Despite the appalling UK trade numbers, present efforts to squeeze domestic demand, which has seen commercial bank interest rates rise from 7.5 per cent in May to currently 12 per cent, has served to underpin sterling.

Kuwait Dinar Exchange Rates (in fils)

Currency	Type	1986		1987		HI	LO	CV ²
		Closing	Average	Closing	Average			
US dollar	CBK ³	292.94	270.07	-7.8	278.80	292.23	269.02	1.68
Sterling	Spot	430.48	505.57	+17.4	458.12	508.07	419.27	4.80
Deutschmark	Spot	150.46	170.71	+13.5	155.59	171.13	148.77	3.54
Swiss franc	Spot	179.94	211.32	+17.4	187.78	211.44	177.05	4.35
French franc	Spot	45.38	50.34	+10.9	46.50	50.48	44.57	2.89
100 yen	spot	183.11	220.92	+20.6	193.85	221.06	180.34	4.81

1. KD = 1000 fils.

2. Coefficient of variation. The lower the coefficient, the greater the stability of the currency, and vice-versa.

3. Central Bank of Kuwait.

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Kuwait banks' aggregate balance sheet totals KD12.835b

Long-term strategy gives new fillip to economy

THE Central Bank of Kuwait, established in 1969, controls the banking system. As such it implements the government's monetary policies, including the regulation of domestic liquidity and the direction and cost of bank credit, supervises all bank credit, supervises all bank institutions and is responsible for the protection of the banking system.

Besides its primary responsibility for the issue and management of currency, the bank is also banker to the nation's banks and financial institutions, as well as economic adviser to the government.

In keeping with the general development of the domestic economy, and of the financial sector in particular, the Central Bank has considerably expanded its own operations in recent years.

Active

An example of the Central Bank's bigger profile in Kuwait's financial system is its increasingly active role in the money market, affecting interest rate levels. This kind of activity has heavily underlined the highly regulated nature of the KD money market.

Besides the Central Bank, the financial sector in Kuwait comprises seven commercial banks, three specialised banks, some 24 investment companies, and a number of money exchange companies, supervised by the Central Bank.

In addition, there is the Kuwait Finance House (KFH), which is run in accordance with Islamic banking law and falls outside the Central Bank's ambit, and a number of insurance companies active in financial markets.

The seven banks comprising Kuwait's commercial banking sector operate 160 domestic branches and 12 overseas branches.

The Central Bank of Kuwait report has said the aggregate balance sheet of local commercial and specialised banks totalled KD12.835 billion last month, an increase of 1.1 per cent or KD133.4 million over the previous month.

The increase in assets resul-

ted mainly from a growth of KD71 million in foreign assets, KD35 million in local banks' balances with the Central Bank of Kuwait and KD12 million in credit facilities to residents, the CBK release said.

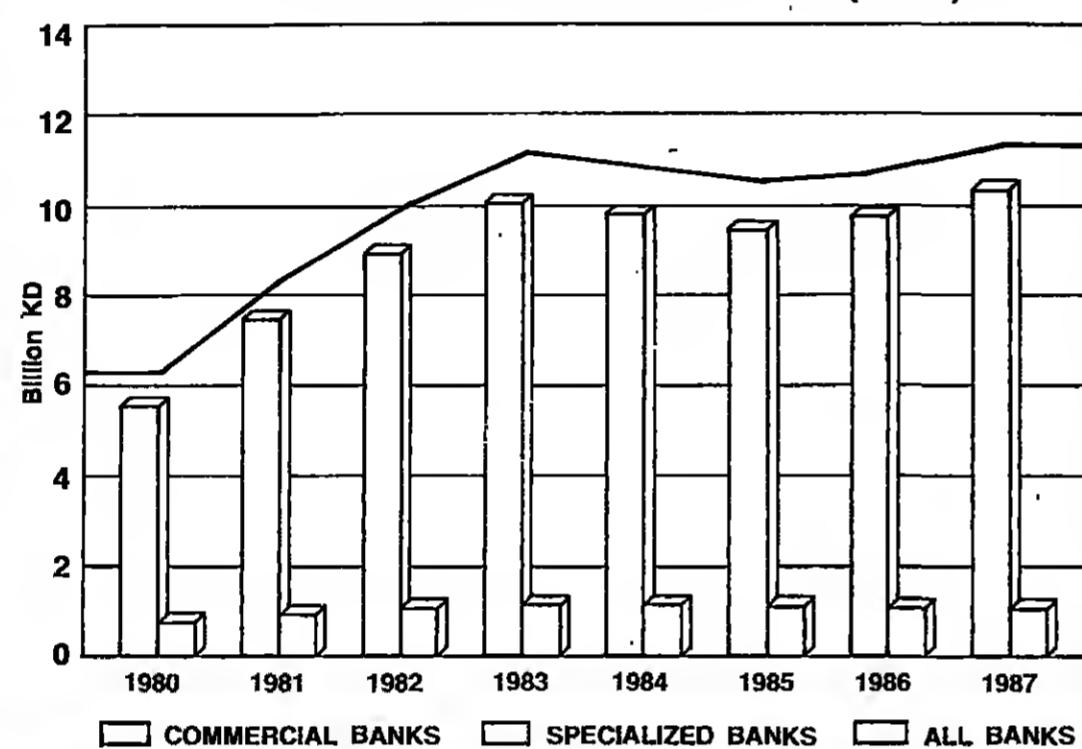
The domestic investments of local banks recorded a slight decline of KD25 million (KD19 million in commercial banks' investments and KD6 million in specialised banks' investments), it added.

The rise in the aggregate balance sheet of local banks was most pronounced in their foreign liabilities (KD109.4 million) and in other liabilities (KD64 million).

Rise

This rise was due to an increase in the CBK claims on these banks in the form of discounts and KD deposits. There was also an increase of KD26 million in government deposits with them — particularly with the specialised banks, whereas the private sector deposits declined by KD66 million.

KUWAITI BANKS: TOTAL ASSETS (80-87)



below their level in previous month.

The private sector KD-denominated deposits with commercial banks declined at varied rates below their level in the previous month. There was a 6.6 per cent (KD39.9 million) drop in savings deposits, a 2.2 per cent (KD14.3 million) decrease in savings deposits and a 1.7 per cent decline (KD37.8 million) on time deposits. Deposits denominated in foreign currencies grew in August and for the third consecutive month by 7.4 per cent (KD77 million).

In August, the average KD exchange rate against the US dollar fell 0.44 per cent below their level in the previous month. The US dollar exchange rate ranged between 282.49 fils and 285.07 fils, a monthly average of 283.85 fils, the release noted.

The CBK added against other major currencies, the KD exchange rate had a mixed performance. It increased against the Swiss franc, the French

franc, the Deutsche mark and the Italian lira by 2.90 per cent, 2.37 per cent, 2.03 per cent and 1.72 per cent respectively. The KD exchange rate decreased slightly against the pound sterling by 0.66 per cent and the Japanese yen by 0.57 per cent.

Stable

In August the KD exchange rate was generally more stable than the US dollar exchange rate. The KD exchange rate rose at rates less than those of the US dollar exchange rate against the same currencies.

For example, the KD exchange rate rose 3.37 per cent, 2.82 per cent and 2.48 per cent against the Swiss franc, the French franc and the Deutsche mark respectively.

At the end of August, the total balance of public debt instruments maintained its level of the previous month (KD1394.5 million), KD770 million for treasury bills and KD624.5 million for treasury bonds.

The Central Bank of Kuwait offered for issues (issue No. 18

to issue No. 21) treasury bills totalling KD400 million. Meanwhile, four issues (issue No. 10 to issue No. 13) of these bills, also totalling KD400 million, have matured.

Interest rates last month on interbank KD deposits on most maturities decreased slightly from the previous month. These rates ranged between 1.45 per cent (from 6.40 percent to 6.30 percent) and 1.86 (from 6.48 per cent to 6.36 per cent) on three-month and one-year deposits respectively.

Interest rates on US dollar deposits increased on all maturities at rates higher than those in the previous month, reaching, for example, 5.61 per cent (from 8.10 per cent to 8.55 per cent) on three-month deposits and 6.05 per cent (from 8.54 per cent to 9.05 per cent) on one-year deposits.

Expansion

Overseas expansion and diversification has been a feature of the commercial banking sector in recent years, owing in no small part to the difficult economic conditions locally.

Some banks were ahead of the game. As long ago as 1981, some banks began to formulate a long-term strategy. Foreseeing the 1983 slowdown in business activity, some planners based the strategy on three points: steady international expansion, a move into investment banking, and development of a substantial domestic client base.

Results followed quickly. These banks were successful in attracting new business.

For the near future, commercial banks expect to continue moving into investment banking fields, foreign currency and investment management services, while developing capital market capabilities.

The three specialised banks — the Industrial Bank of Kuwait (IBK), the Real Estate Bank and the Credit and Savings Bank — service the sectors of construction, housing and real estate, local industry, and agriculture with medium- and long-term finance.

Reuters launches Pocketwatch service

REUTERS, the leading world news and information organisation, yesterday announced the launch in Kuwait of a portable terminal to monitor price quotations from major world financial markets.

Called the Reuter Pocketwatch, the new service uses an alpha-numeric pager supplied by Kuwait's Mobile Telephone System Company to deliver up-to-the-minute quotations for major world currencies, financial instruments, stock market indices and bullion.

The contract for the Reuter Pocketwatch was signed yesterday at Mobile Telephone's headquarters by the company's Chairman and Managing Director, Abdulla M. Al Sabe, and Barry Simpson, Reuters Manager, Kuwait and Iraq.

"With the continuing volatility of world markets, dealers and investors need to be in constant touch with market movements," Simpson said.

"Now with the Reuter Pocketwatch, for the first time in Kuwait, they can literally carry the markets in their pockets."

Citibank offers new service to NRIs



Sanjay Sondhi
marks confuse the issue. The return on investment in these currencies should be looked at as a sum of interest plus currency appreciation. This is not an offer for individuals to dabble in foreign exchange markets to make short term gains. It is an opportunity to make medium term investments in a range of currencies backed by economies which are mature, strong and growing.

"It is an attractive package for the increasingly sophisticated NRI investor and the scheme matches any offered by the best offshore centres in the world," Zachariah added.

Sondhi stresses on the accessibility of the foreign currency deposits within 72 hours provided it is not a holiday in New York.

Citibank has mounted an aggressive campaign to build on its already substantial NRI business in Kuwait with enhanced service playing the key role in the strategy.

"The days of a banker sitting back and waiting for business are over and we want to move out aggressively and get the message across to the customer," Sondhi said. "We provide the sort of service to the customer who expects from a leading international bank and this has been our unique selling point."

The bank has been operating in India since 1902 and with all top management consisting of Indians. We feel it combines the advantages of being an Indian bank with its strong international links, Sondhi added.

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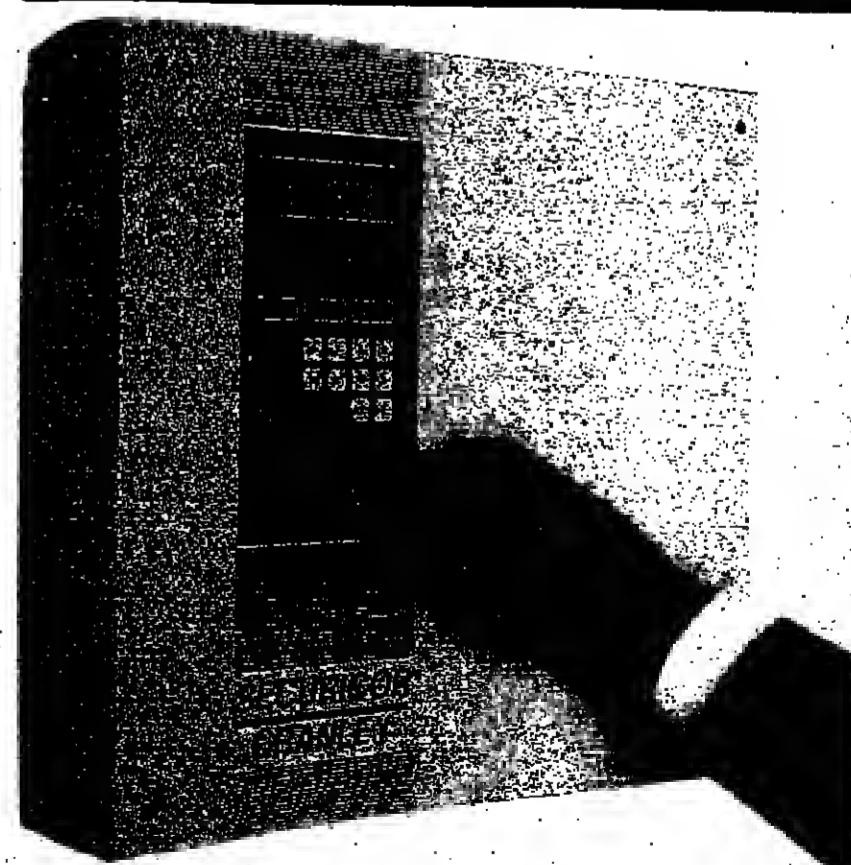
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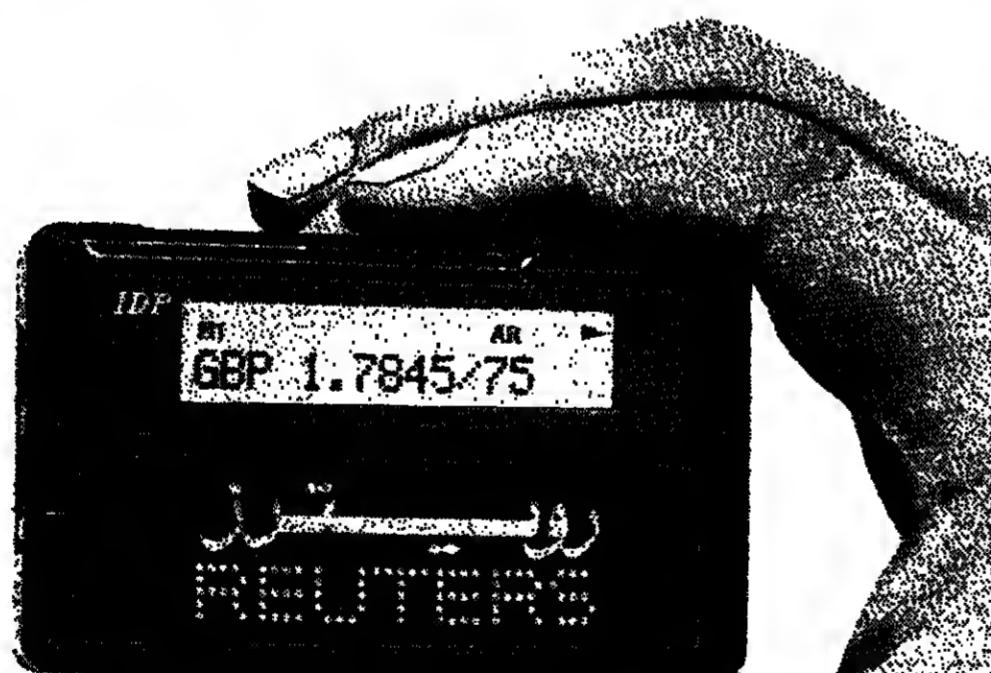
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BUSINESS & FINANCE

Lower currency will make American goods cheaper on world markets

Further dip in dollar needed, say economists

NEW YORK, Oct 29, (Reuters): Economists and currency dealers expect the dollar to slide further, with some arguing it needs to lose around five per cent to the yen and about three per cent to the mark to ensure improvement in the US trade picture.

A lower dollar would make American goods cheaper on world markets and imports more expensive in the United States.

Those who believe a weaker dollar is needed say it should drop and remain lower to shrink the US trade deficit over time, a Reuter's world survey shows.

Exports

"What you need is a lower dollar both to keep US exports going and to slow imports into this country," said Geoffroy Dennis, chief international economist here for British-based James Capel Inc.

The appropriate dollar level according to traders in major financial centres is around 1.20 yen and 1.70 to 1.75 marks.

Estimates ranged as low as 1.00 yen and 1.54 marks and up to 1.40 yen and 1.85 marks. Some also said there was no "magic point."

The dollar was mixed at mid-day yesterday after closing below 1.26 yen and 1.78 marks on Wednesday.

Most market participants are bearish on the long-term prospect for the dollar, citing the US trade and budget gaps and belief the US economy is slowing as reason for their projection.

Since February 1985 the dollar has tumbled over 50 per cent against the yen and mark. While it has partly rebounded this year, some economists said it remains under its "purchasing power parity" value, the theoretical level where world trade flows balance.

And it is argued that it must remain below this level—which, by one estimate, is 1.60 yen and 1.90 marks—because of the magnitude of current world imbalances.

"The problem is that the imbalances are so large that we need to overshoot just as we did on the way up," said Stephen Leach, currency analyst at Chemical Bank in New York.

While several market participants said the dollar needs to weaken further, the Reagan administration has signalled it is content with recent dollar levels.

The Treasury this week said it expects more improvement in the trade balance at least through 1989, even without further exchange-rate changes.

Exceptions

It predicted the US merchandise trade deficit, on a balance-of-payments basis, would fall around \$30 billion this year, to about 130 billion. The current deficit, a wider measure lumping trade and other financial dealings, is forecast to drop about \$20 billion, to 134 billion.

While several market participants believe a lower dollar is needed, there were exceptions, in

part reflecting regional interests. In Australia, economists believe the appropriate value for the dollar is a higher one—at 140 yen and 1.80 marks. They also believe the Australian dollar should fall to 75 cents from its current level of near 83 cents.

Australia needs a decline in its own currency to boost its trade position and cut its current account gap, analysts said.

And in Paris, the business forecasting institute Ipecode said the dollar next year could trade on average at 1.65 marks but fall to 1.21 yen by the fourth quarter of 1989.

"These rates will be low enough to allow the US trade deficit to continue to improve and also satisfy central banks in the US and Europe," said an Ipecode economist.

But in London economists said an appropriate level to cut the current account gap would be about 1.20 yen and 1.75 marks.

"On a 'PPP' basis (purchasing

power parity), the dollar is undervalued," said Ceris Williams, chief international economist at London-based Midland Montagu. "But to generate a much larger improvement in the trade balance and thus the current account, the dollar needs to be below the 'PPP' levels for some time, perhaps a year to 18 months."

London financial experts expect the dollar will be firmer by year-end, at 1.30 yen and 1.82 marks, but they forecast a fall to 1.20 and 1.70 by mid-1989.

Favourable

Opinions about the dollar's appropriate level vary in Tokyo, with one banker arguing there is no such level and another placing it as low as 1.00 yen and 1.54 marks.

Hirozumi Tanaka, assistant general manager at Dai-Ichi Kangyo Bank, sees it differently, saying: "In terms of Japanese exporters, around 1.25-yen levels are favourable. And in terms of

the US (trade) deficit, 1.20-yen levels would be good."

In Frankfurt, Dieter Werthum, vice president at manufacturers Hanover GMBH, said: "It is a question of how long the investors are ready to finance the US current account deficit and as long as that is the case, the market value is the appropriate one." But he added that 1.60 marks was "a nice level for correcting trade imbalances."

James Capel's Dennis in New York said an appropriate level would be 1.18 yen and 1.62 marks, a level he believes the dollar will trade at in about a year.

"You need to be at least there to get the adjustment process working again and to get the deficit down," he said.

Based on his forecast, Dennis expects the overseas merchandise trade deficit to fall to \$140 billion this year from \$170 billion in 1988. He expects a further decline next year, to \$125 billion.

World Business Summary

GM posts profit rise and Chrysler profit slumps

DETROIT, Michigan, Oct 29, (AP): General Motors Corp. reported yesterday that its third-quarter earnings rose to \$89.2 million, an industry record for the period, while Chrysler Corp. said its third-quarter profit skidded 54.3 per cent. GM cited rebounding North American sales and continued strong performance overseas, while Chrysler blamed its profit decline on heavy costs for incentives and the retooling of a Delaware assembly plant. GM, the nation's largest automaker, said its profit amounted to \$2.46 per share during the July-September period this year. The company had originally reported a profit of \$81.23 million, or \$2.28 a share, for the third quarter of 1987, but said yesterday that accounting changes made the comparable figures for last year \$421 million, or \$1.05 per share. GM reported third-quarter sales of \$25.04 billion, up 10.8 per cent from \$22.6 billion a year earlier. GM's latest earnings represent the industry's biggest third-quarter profit ever, and were \$2.9 million higher than Ford Motor Co. reported for the period on Wednesday. In the third quarter of 1987, GM adjusted the service lives of its plants, equipment and special tools, allowing for greater depreciation. From the first nine months, GM said it earned \$3.46 billion, on sales of \$81.38 billion. That compares with adjusted nine-month earnings of \$2.72 billion on sales of \$75.4 billion. Chrysler said it earned \$112.5 million on sales of \$7.01 billion during the July-September period this year. During the three-month period last year, Chrysler said it earned \$246 million on sales of \$6.17 billion. In a statement, Chrysler said that in addition to the high costs of incentives, which the company used extensively to lure buyers into showrooms, and the closing for the entire period of the Newark, Delaware, assembly plant, the company had a heavier proportion of fleet sales over more profitable individual car sales.

New two-tier exchange rate may lead to price rises, says Sudan

Khartoum, Oct 29, (Reuters): Sudan said yesterday a new two-tier foreign exchange rate would probably lead to price rises and would be followed by other reforms to its economy.

"This is the beginning of a series of corrective policies. It will be followed by new economic and fiscal policies," Minister of State for Finance Al Tigani Al Tayeb said without giving details.

He told a news conference prices were likely to rise at least temporarily following the new currency system introduced on Wednesday, under which the official rate of 4.5 pounds to the dollar was devalued to about 11.45 pounds for some transactions.

No further devaluation would follow, Tayeb said.

Talks

Sudan, due to hold talks next week with the International Monetary Fund (IMF), has been unable to fully service foreign debts of \$12 billion and Tayeb said inflation was running at an annual rate of between 40 and 50 per cent.

The economy has been ravaged by years of civil war in the south and by floods and locusts this year.

The new exchange rate applies to 30 per cent of export earnings and some imports and to remittances from a million Sudanese expatriates and earnings of first-class hotels.

Sudan hopes the new rate will boost exports, lure home the savings of Sudanese abroad and reduce the influence of the black market, on which the dollar was fetching more than 12 pounds yesterday.

The IMF, which declared Sudan ineligible for fresh credits in 1986, has long urged Sudan to adjust its currency to boost exports.

South Korea's GNP expected to grow by 11pc

SEOUL, South Korea, Oct 29, (AP): South Korea's gross national product is expected to grow by 11 per cent in 1988, up from the initial projections of 10 per cent, the Bank of Korea said today.

Kim Kon, governor of the Central Bank, said the projection was revised upward after third-quarter indicators showed that exports and domestic demand were strong and capital investment was expanding.

It would be the third consecutive year for the nation's GNP to register a double-digit growth rate. The rate was 12.3 per cent in 1986 and 12.0 per cent in 1987.

Growth

Kim said Central Bank forecasts placed GNP growth at 13 per cent in the third quarter, or July-September 1988, up from 10.3 per cent in the same period last year. He also said that regardless of whether the economy slows down in the fourth quarter of this year, the Central Bank expected substantial growth figures.

South Korea's GNP advanced 14.9 per cent in the first quarter of this year but slid down to 9.1 per cent in the April-June period when many industries were hit by labour strikes for higher wages and improved working conditions.

A less stormy October for stocks

Market averages show some modest gains

NEW YORK, Oct 29, (AP): October 1988 has been no prize-winning month for the stock market. But, considering the historical alternatives, many investors will take it without much complaint.

With one session left on Monday before the month ends, stock market averages show some modest gains since the end of September.

Stocks got through the first anniversary of Black Monday on Oct 19 relatively unscathed. Indeed, two days later several market indicators reached their highest levels since the crash.

If there is a sense of relief on Wall Street as the month draws to a close, however, there is very little elation.

In the view of a good many

observers, both the buyout specialists who acquire stocks with borrowed money and the traders who follow in their wake are engaged in the kind of activity that often comes at market peaks.

"One of the mesmerising ingredients of market tops is the latest fad," said Justin Mamis, an analyst at Cowen and Co.

"Fads, whether they be toys or boat tips or tulip bulbs, provide excitement, motivation to buy and a justification for paying a lot of money for something you hadn't realised was so desirable before."

The bidding wars culminate in top-of-the-market prices, meaning someone eventually will wind up a loser because that's the

nature of markets."

Warnings of that sort have struck home lately, prompting a selling squall in the stocks of many companies involved in take-over deals and rumours.

Decline

With a 33.61-point decline to 2,149.89 in the past week, the Dow Jones average of 30 industrial stocks to a net gain of 36.98 points for October to date.

Other readings for the week showed the New York Stock Exchange composite index down 2.63 to 156.79, the NASDAQ composite index for the over-the-counter market down 5.80 at 382.79, and the American Stock Exchange Market value index down 4.32 at 301.75.

Volume on the Big Board averaged 170.03 million shares a day, against 170.63 million the week before.

Market-watchers say it would be simplistic to argue that takeovers and buyouts have been the only prop under the stock market this year.

"Stocks have risen for other reasons, like strong earnings, dividend increases and continued economic growth," said John Connolly at Dean Witter Reynolds Inc.

Indeed, General Motors shares were a conspicuous gainer in the past week, rising against the tide of takeover jitters on the strength of a much better-than-expected quarterly earnings report.

Prices

This caused some precautionary buying by most trading companies, thus allowing oil prices to rise.

Another factor behind Friday's firmer market was concern that supply of some refined products in the United States might be tight.

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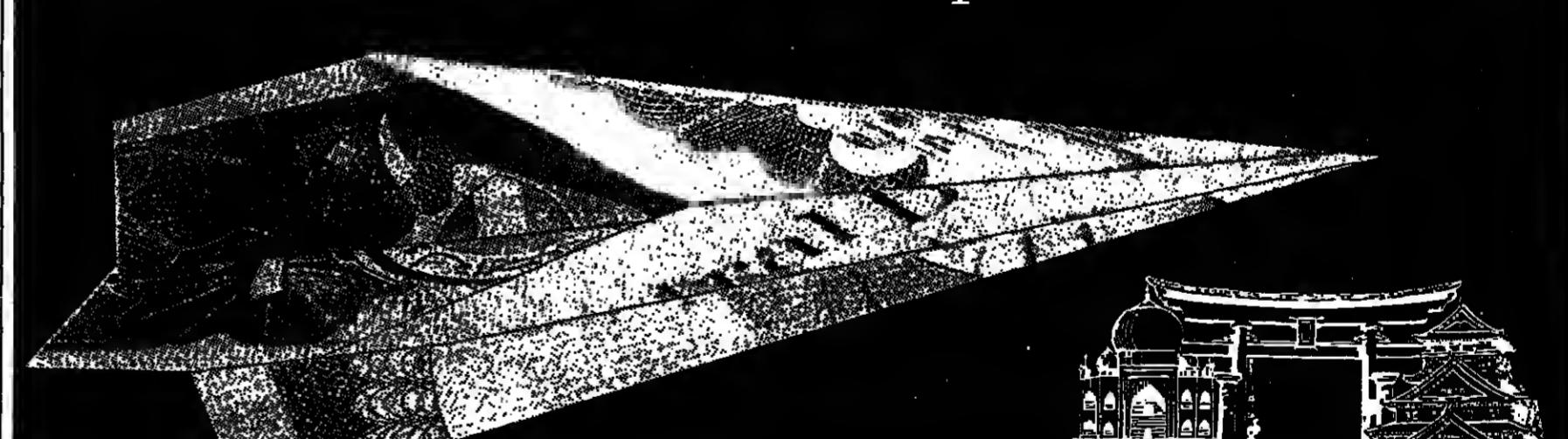
Oil prices firm

LONDON, Oct 29, (Reuters): Oil prices firmed 50 to 60 cents a barrel on world spot markets yesterday as traders looked towards further OPEC talks next month on way to cut excess organisation output and tighten the sagging market.

They said that late in Europe's day, Brent Blend from Britain's North Sea, the most widely traded crude, was quoted around \$12.65 per barrel.

They said the run-up to meetings of the Organisation of

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Alshall stock price indices

Trade volume dips as market continues to show mixed trend

THE ALSSHALL Index for Kuwaiti shareholding companies recorded on Wednesday an average of 42.69 points with no change from last week's average. Alshall Index for Gulf shareholding companies reached 48.88 points with a decrease of 0.21 point — 0.4 per cent — for the same period.

The trading volume for Kuwaiti shares (for three days trading) reached 11.99 million shares at a daily average of 4.00 million shares with a decrease of 39.4 per cent from the previous week's daily average of 6.60 million shares.

Gulf traded shares reached 17.47 million shares at a daily average of 5.82 million shares with an increase of 17.5 per cent over last week's daily average of 4.95 million shares.

The value of Kuwaiti traded shares was KD5.621 million at a daily average of KD1.874 million, a decrease of 28.3 per cent from last week's daily average of KD0.179 million.

The value of Gulf traded shares was KD0.893 million at a daily average of KD0.298 million an increase of 66.5 per cent over last week's daily average of KD0.179 million.

Market performance continued this week to show mixed signs, which were inclined to be negative at the Kuwaiti shares market and positive at the Gulf shares market.

However, Alshall Consultants believe that the trade volume of Gulf shares will decrease considerably after the decision taken by the Stock Exchange authorities to close the parallel market by the end of this year. As a result of the implementation of the decision many companies that do not meet the listing requirements will have to withdraw.

For the Kuwaiti shares market, the banking sector came first at 78 per cent of total trading with a considerable increase over 55 per cent.

The Commercial Bank led in the sector at 29 per cent, followed by The Gulf Bank at 24 per cent and Kuwait National Bank at 22.4 per cent.

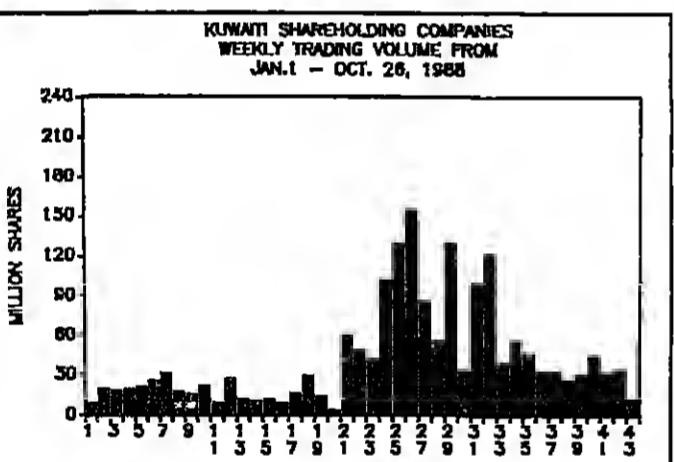
Second came the services sector at 12 per cent of total trading of which Kuwait commercial markets had the lead at 74 per cent, followed by Mobile Telephone Systems at 21 per cent and Public Warehousing at five per cent.

The investment sector came third at six per cent of total trading in which Kuwait Investment Projects Company — which was newly added to the Investment Sector — led at 53 per cent followed by Investment Pearl Kuwait at 20 per cent and Commercial Facilities at 15 per cent.

For the Gulf shares market, the financial sector led at 59 per cent of total trading volume, Ras Al Khaima White Cement led at 38 per cent of total trading in both markets, followed by Bahrain and Middle East Bank at 30 per cent and Coast Investment and Development Company at 21 per cent.

Kuwait shareholding companies index

	Wednesday	Wednesday	Change
	26/10/88	19/10/88	points
Banking Sector			
Kuwait National Bank	113.63	112.62	-1.01
The Gulf Bank	35.22	35.63	-0.41
The Commercial Bank	27.44	27.44	
Al Ahli Bank	36.04	36.04	
Bank of Kuwait & M. East	34.20	34.20	
Kuwait R. Estate Bank	30.95	30.95	
Burgan Bank	31.22	31.22	
Kuwait Finance House	84.66	84.66	
Sector Index	49.83	49.72	0.12



Investment Sector	27.18	27.18	—
Kuwait Investment Co.	24.40	25.43	-1.03
Kuwait Int. Invest. Co.	82.54	84.13	-1.59
Inv. Pearl Kuwait	73.53	75.53	—
IFA	120.00	120.00	—
Commercial Facilities	38.09	38.48	-0.37
Sector Index	40.25	40.30	-0.05

Investment Sector	39.68	39.68	—
Gulf Insurance Co.	26.92	26.92	—
Al Ahlia Insurance Co.	51.28	51.28	—
Warba Insurance Co.	77.32	78.18	-0.86
Sector Index	40.25	40.30	-0.05

Real Estate Sector	29.57	29.57	—
United Realty	10.95	11.17	-0.22
National Real Estate	40.21	40.21	—
Sector Index	20.67	20.79	-0.13

Industrial Sector	17.38	17.38	—
Refrigeration Indust.	91.14	91.14	—
Gulf Cables	112.10	111.07	-1.03
Kuwait Pharmaceutical	91.56	93.33	-1.78
Sector Index	36.21	36.17	-0.03

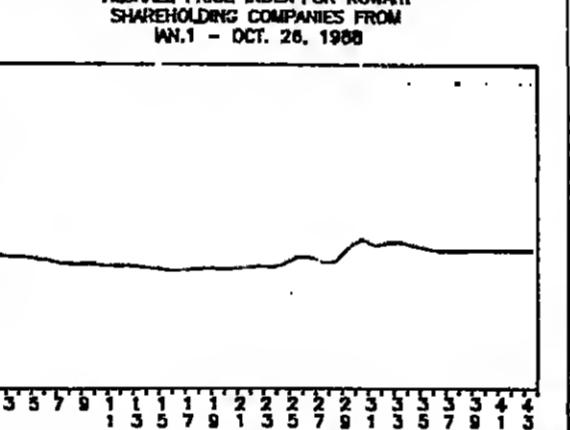
Services Sector	192.24	192.24	—
Kuwait Computer Co.	9.04	9.04	—
Public Warehousing Co.	78.79	79.80	-1.01
Kuwait Comm. Markets Co.	33.96	35.95	-2.00
Mobile Telephone Syst.	328.57	328.57	—
Sector Index	62.03	62.43	-0.40

Gulf shareholding companies index

	Wednesday	Wednesday	Change
	26/10/88	19/10/88	points
Financial Companies			
First Gulf Bank	163.16	163.16	—
United Gulf Bank	34.48	34.48	—
Bahrain Internat. Bank	95.17	95.17	—
Bahrain M. East Bank	98.71	93.97	-4.75
Gulf Investments Co.	61.03	61.03	—
Coast Inv. & Dev. Co.	97.14	99.05	-1.90
Bahrain Kuwait Inv. Gro.	58.76	60.30	-1.55
Arabian Gen. Inv. (SHUAA)	51.52	53.03	-1.52
Sector Index	64.25	64.52	-0.27

Other Companies	13.68	13.68	—
Gulf Cement (fully paid)	10.50	10.50	—
Sharjah Cement	8.55	8.55	—
Fujairah Cement	28.33	28.33	—
Ras Al Khaima W. Cement	30.90	32.56	-1.66
Gulf Medical Projects	16.66	16.74	-0.08
Sector Index	48.88	49.09	-0.21

Base Period 31/12/1983.



Kuwait dinar deposit rates steady

KUWAIT, Oct 29. (Reuters): Kuwaiti dinar deposit rates changed little today in quiet trading amid tight liquidity from dollar buying last week.

Players kept long dollar positions, believing the US currency would strengthen, even though it slipped against the dinar today and there was little fresh buying.

The Central Bank dinar exchange rate firms to 0.27941/51 to the dollar from Thursday's 0.27995/53, while commercial banks quoted spot rates of around 0.27950/53.

Funds

Overnight funds deal at 15 per cent, the high of Thursday business, while spot next was given at eight per cent.

Banks were reluctant to trade in periods longer than one-month to stabilise year-end accounts. One-month deposits were quoted at 7-1/8, 6-3/4 per cent, close to Thursday's range, after business at seven per cent.

Two and three-month money was quoted at 6-7/8, 3/8 per cent and six-month at 6-3/4, 3/8 per cent.

Meanwhile, Saudi riyal interbank deposits were little changed in quiet trade which focused on the short end of the market as banks covered positions.

Business was thin in a normal trend for the European weekend, when many major players are absent. But dealers said they expected deposit rates to decline in the coming month as offshore banks begin speculating against a possible riyal devaluation when the Saudi budget is announced at end-1988.

PEOPLE



Mixing jazz and Buddhism

By Steven Brull

TOKYO. (Reuters): Around midnight, American jazz stars Herbie Hancock, Wayne Shorter and Larry Coryell knelt before a makeshift altar in Hancock's hotel room and chanted in a slow, steady monotone.

The Sanskrit chant 'Nam myoho-renge-kyo' (I believe in the wonderful law of the Lotus sutra) is an affirmation of devotion to the Lotus sutra, the ultimate truth of life for followers of Nichiren Shoshu Buddhism.

"Gongyo (chanting) in the morning when you first get up and again in the evening — it gets your life in tune for the day," said the 48-year-old Hancock, a keyboardist and composer.

These musicians say Nichiren Shoshu has given them the discipline and direction to make the most of their lives — both on and off the stage.

"I learned that music is not just chords or notes. Music uses chords and notes to tell some kind of story. That story has to do with life itself," Hancock said.

"The benefits to chanting come in many forms," said Shorter, a 55-year-old saxophonist. "It tells you what you must do. It's your life telling you that. Sincerity is the source of this knowledge," he said.

Shorter, Hancock, Coryell and give other jazz disciples, including bassist Buster Williams and drummer Ronald Shannon Jackson, were recently in Japan, playing to packed halls during a two-week, eight-city tour.

They are all members of Soka Gakkai (value-creating society), an organization of lay Nichiren members founded in 1930, which has grown to become the biggest and most controversial of Japan's new religions.

Soka Gakkai claims more than 10 million disciples in Japan — more than one in eight people — and 1.26 million overseas.

They follow the teachings of Nichiren, a 14th century monk who said the Buddha nature — a force that can transform an individual's bad karma, or destiny, to a good — is inherent in each human being.

Chanting can bring out an individual's Buddha nature and help bring peace and happiness to the world, they believe.

The religion has many caustic critics.

They charge Soka Gakkai uses coercive tactics to recruit and keep members.

Many non-believers also shudder at the Soka Gakkai ideal of merging politics and religion, a reminder of the establishment of Shinto as a state religion by militarists who ran Japan in the 1930s.

Story of an amazing family reunion

BRITISH actress Pauline Collins and her husband actor John Alderton, British theatre's Mr and Mrs Happy Family, broke their silence recently on the secret they have kept for the life of their marriage.

Before they met, while working as a repertory actress at the age of 23, Pauline had a brief affair with actor Tony Rohr.

The romance brought a baby daughter called Louise who was adopted six weeks after the birth in 1964.

Pauline went on with her career, met John Alderton and married him in 1970. Although she told her husband all about her first child, she never shared her secret with the three children they had together.

Thwarted

"But there was never a day," Pauline, 47, said "when I didn't think of my daughter."

She often told her husband of her longing to rediscover the child and get to know her. She even made efforts to trace Louise's adoptive parents and her new home but was thwarted by the law.

Parents of adopted children are not given information to enable them to find the babies they gave away. But the law does allow the children to trace their parents once they become adults — and this was Pauline's hope.

For years she prayed her daughter would one day inquire about her past, get the adoption papers released by the court and trace her natural mother.

She was sustained in this hope by husband John, also 47. He said yesterday: "I was always sure Pauline's child would come back one day. We were just waiting for the moment we could welcome her."

All those years Louise was growing up in a pleasant suburban house in Wimbleton, just a few miles across London from the Aldertons' home in Hampstead.

She was now Louise Baker and her childhood was comfortable and untroubled. She had an elder brother called Christopher, who worked as a solicitor, younger twin brothers called



John Alderton and Pauline Collins: there was never a day when I didn't think of my daughter.

Michael and Richard and another sister.

Shortly before Louise's 21st birthday, tragedy struck the Baker family. It happened in July 1985 when Richard, a barge captain at his private Roman Catholic school who was as good at his studies as he was at sport, gave an end-of-term party at the family home.

A gang of drunkenskinheads gathered around the party and started a fight. Richard was

stabbed to death as he tried to remonstrate with them. His attacker Dean Harris was later sentenced to six years in jail for manslaughter.

Louise was deeply affected by the tragedy. And whether as a result of the blow to her family or not she told her adoptive mother she wanted to find her real mother.

With family support she set out to do so.

It is a course many adopted



Long-lost daughter Louise children embark on although few stick it out to the end.

Louise Baker did. And she discovered that her real mother was a famous actress whose face is known to most families in Britain through her starring roles in TV series like Upstairs, Downstairs, and Yes, Minister.

Indeed, Louise must have watched her mother on screen many times herself with no idea of their relationship.

After her discovery, Louise thought things over for a few days then decided to write to Pauline.

Relaxed

The actress says the day the letter arrived was one of the greatest of her life.

A few days later mother and daughter met in a reunion which she says was wonderful, relaxed and natural.

Pauline had some fascinating news for her daughter.

Not only was she able to tell her the name of her father, she was able to introduce him as well since the couple had remained friends all those years.

Tony Rohr, now happily married with three young daughters, was delighted to meet his child by Pauline.

He said: "I was staggered when I first met her. There was no doubt she was my daughter — I knew as soon as I saw her."

Louise's adoptive mother, Mrs Maria Baker, gave the meeting her full support.

"There has never been any sense of strain," she said.

"Now it's as if we are one family who've known each other all our lives."



1985: trim and happy

1988: overweight and moody

Liz in crisis again

By Tony Brella

ELIZABETH TAYLOR, back in hospital for the third time in three months, was reported to be 35 pounds overweight, chain-smoking, hock on the booze and popping pills like candy.

She is also said to have fought with her doctor about misuse of painkillers and her weight gain. 'He has done all he could for Liz's back pain without surgery,' says a friend. 'She has had massages and therapy but still the condition persisted.'

'The painkiller problem has become chronic,' claims an American magazine. And Liz has lost the battle to control her reliance on prescription drugs and alcohol.

Empty

Fast approaching her 57th year and the harsh realization that life and love are passing her by, Miss Taylor, once the world's most beautiful actress, has been a virtual recluse in her Los Angeles home for weeks.

'I can't stand being alone, I feel so empty and unloved,' she confessed to a friend just a few days before going back into

hospital. With her darker moods, the looks appear to have suffered — when she has been happy, it has likewise clearly shown.

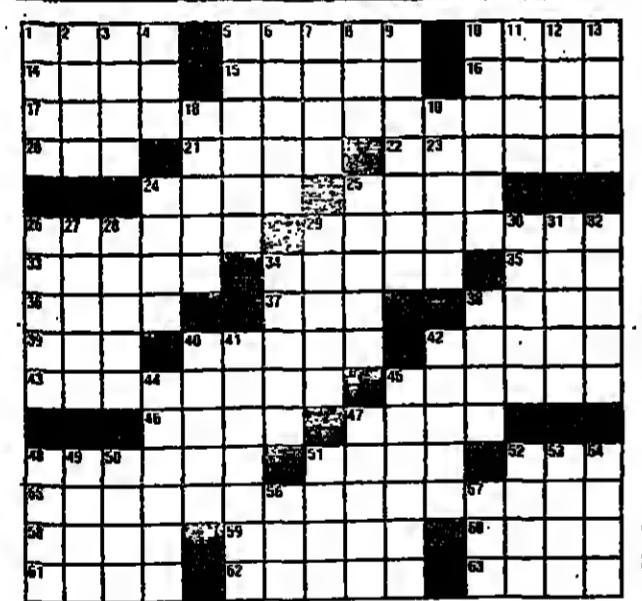
Now, in her private California hospital suite, said to be costing around £2,300 a day, she faces her latest health crisis. 'She began drinking again,' the magazine said. She started by having a glass of wine with her meals. Recently, she'd also have a few bottles of beer a day along with her wine and pills.

On September 29, her excesses caught up with her, and she landed back in St John's facing the wrath of her outraged doctors.

According to nurses, her room is bare of flowers other than a small plant sent by her secretary, with a get well card. With her doctors, she must decide whether she should undergo major surgery to correct a serious spinal condition.

A spokesman for Miss Taylor said yesterday that she would be undergoing a series of X-rays and other examinations. Mr Chem Sam also denied she had become reliant on prescription drugs and alcohol.

TODAY'S CROSSWORD



GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
IN DIRE EMERGENCIES, PUNT!

North-South vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♦ 8 6 2
♥ J 8
♦ A K 4 2
♦ K 9 6 3

WEST
♦ Q 10 5 4
♥ K 7 4 2
♦ 10 9 5 3
♦ Q 9
♦ 10 8 5

EAST
♦ A K J 3
♥ 9 7
♦ 10 9 5 3
♦ 8 7 6 3
♦ A Q J

SOUTH
♦ A K J 3
♥ A Q 6
♦ J 10 5
♦ 7 4 2

The bidding:
South West North East
1 NT Pass 3 NT Pass
Pass Pass

Opening lead: Four of ♠

Had this hand been played in a pairs event, declarer would probably have made his contract — defenders are afraid to give away a possible overtrick lest it earn them a bottom. At rubber bridge, an extra 50 or 100 points is a small price to pay for an even-money chance to defeat a game contract.

Since North-South were using 15-17 point no trump opening bids, South's hand just qualified for that action. North's raise to game was automatic.

We would have made ourselves, was unfortunate in that it gave declarer a trick he could not make on his own — as it happens, a heart lead would not have cost; declarer can make two tricks, and only two, in that suit by force. The Jack of diamonds was covered by the queen and taken by the table's king, and declarer set about building a club trick by leading low from dummy.

In with the Jack of clubs, East reverted to a spade, won by declarer's king. A club to the king lost to the ace, and East shifted to a high heart. Declarer played low, West took his king and forced out the ace of spades. East discarded his queen of clubs!

It was a 50 percent chance that West held the ten of that suit, but it was a sure bet that he could not have any other entry-card in his hand. Declarer was now a dead duck. He could garner no more than two additional tricks if he went after the diamonds. And if he tried to set up the fulfilling trick in clubs, West would win and cash his fourth spade for a one-trick set.

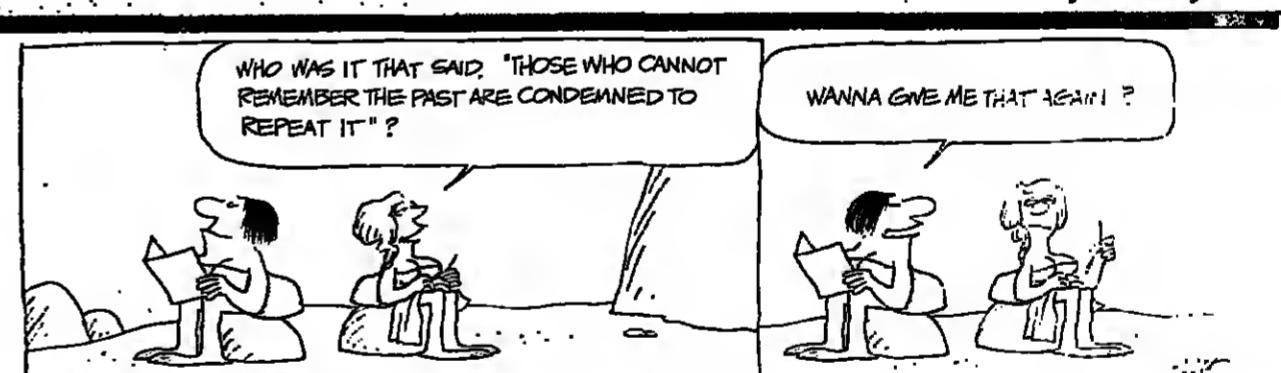
Declarer could have thwarted East's spectacular unblock by ducking the second club as well. But that takes nothing away from East's brilliant play.

THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



By Johnny Hart



YOUR STARS



"I'm sorry, sir. You said you wanted the cheapest room."

ARAB TIMES Classifieds

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KUWAIT City, Sharq, behind the fire station. Accommodation for Indian bachelors. Tele. Mr John, 2419327, after 6 pm. (AT2-44592-3)

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الگرام بانی معموریتیں اور میراثیں اور میراثیں۔ جمع ایٹھنی
متقابل شرکتیں ایسے ایجاد کرنے کے لئے ایک مکان اختیار کیں۔

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RENAULT 25-V6, 86 model, black. Full options, very clean. Tele. 2418406, 9am-1pm, 4-8pm; 4835007, 1-4pm. (AT2-AJ-TM-3)

TOYOTA Corolla 1979, manual, single hand driven, in excellent condition. Highest offers. Tele. Mr J. Singh, 2550725, 9am - 2pm. (AT1-44555-2)

PORSCHE 928S 1981, full options, white with cream leather interior, in very good condition. Tele. 5635630. (AT1-44582-2)

ISUZU WFR 1984, 8 seater bus, registered in 1/9/85 with AC, in excellent condition. KD1200, cash. Tele. Mr Hakim, 4845099, 4842096, 8-9 am. (AT2-44567-3)

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IKEA living room with 3 Kotter chairs, Skutvik bed, mattress and wardrobe. All are in new condition. Also Sony 2092 colour TV with RC. Tele. Mr Tannous, 2452763. (AT2-44603-3)

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Martin upsets Norman

TORONTO, Oct 29. (Reuter): The quarterfinal round of the \$30,000 Canadian Open squash championships produced one minor upset yesterday as fourth seed Ross Norman of New Zealand fell to fifth-seeded Australian Rodney Martin.

Norman, a former world champion, was visibly upset by his quick exit as Martin, who has now won their last four meetings, easily reached the semifinals 15-12 15-9 15-12.

Other top three seeds all advanced without the loss of a game in yesterday's quarterfinal action.

Martin was to face second seed Jahangir Khan of Pakistan today. Jahangir, ranked second in the world, is playing with renewed confidence and strength as he strives to regain his top ranking.

The second seed crushed seventh seed Ross Thorne of Australia 15-6 15-4 15-10 in just 30 minutes — the shortest match of the tournament.

Succumbed

Top seed Jansher Khan of Pakistan breezed through his first game with the loss of just five points to sixth-seeded compatriot Umar Hayat Khan. The sixth seed put up more of a fight in the next two games, but succumbed to the superior talent of the world number one 15-14 15-10.

Jansher will next face third-seeded Australian Chris Dittmar, a 15-5 15-3 17-13 winner over 13th seed Del Harris of Britain.

Dittmar, who lost five-set matches to Jansher in Singapore, Hong Kong and New Zealand in recent weeks, believes he will turn the tide this evening.

"In Asia the courts were much harder and this one's much slower and more suited to my attacking game," Dittmar said.

Dittmar said he planned to play to four corners and only go for winners when he's sure he can make them.

Haugen stops Jacobsen to retain title

BRONDBY, Denmark, Oct 29. (UPI): Reigning IBF world light-weight champion Greg Haugen of the United States retained his title last night when he stopped Danish challenger Gert Bo Jacobsen in the 10th round at Brondby, outside Copenhagen. The American floored the Dane with a strong left hook but Jacobsen got up after the count reached eight, but his corner stopped the fight by throwing in the towel.

Although former European champion Jacobsen made it close during the first six rounds, his punches did not seem to effect Haugen.

Dethroned

With the Dane tiring in the later rounds, Haugen taunted his head and body with flurries of heavy punches, putting a gash over the game fighter's eye.

Haugen, 27, first won the International Boxing Federation's lightweight title in December 1986, dethroning Jimmy Paul.

He lost it to Vinny Paizienza in 1987 on points but won it back again in a spectacular bout later that year.

Coe wins race against clock's chimes

CAMBRIDGE, England, Oct 29. (Reuter): Double Olympic champion Sebastian Coe imitated a legendary feat today when he beat a Cambridge University clock's chimes in a race round a cobblestone courtyard.

In a reconstruction of a famous scene from the Oscar-winning film 'Chariots of Fire,' Coe raced fellow-Briton Steve Cram around Trinity College's great court as the clock struck noon.

But the cheers of the 1,500 spectators in the courtyard drowned the final chimes and there was confusion as to whether former 1,500 metres world champion Cram had also beaten the clock.

Previously

Coe completed the 367-metre, three-cornered course in 45.52 seconds.

The only man to have beaten the clock previously was Lord Buglley, the 1928 Olympic 400 metres hurdles champion, who set a time of 46 seconds when he was a student at the university in 1927.

The British-made film 'Chariots of Fire' showed the 1924 Olympic 100 metres champion Harold Abrahams achieving the feat. But in real life Abrahams never attempted the great court run.

Today's televised event was organised to raise money for a London children's hospital.

PAKISTAN TAKE BANGLADESH TO TASK

Sri Lanka surprise India for Asia Cup final



Ranatunga: hit 98 off 32 balls

DHAKA, Bangladesh, Oct 29. (AP): Defending champion Sri Lanka beat India by 17 runs in the Asia Cup cricket match today and sailed to the finals of the four-nation tournament.

Set to score 272 for a victory, the Indians were all out for 254 in 44 overs.

Today's victory was Sri Lanka's second consecutive triumph in the current tournament. The Sri Lankans defeated Pakistan by five wickets in Dhaka on Thursday. By virtue of their two victories, the Sri Lankans have now entered the finals. India and Pakistan will vie for other berth. Pakistan beat Bangladesh by 173 runs in today's other match, which was played in Chittagong.

Determined

Put into bat by Indian skipper Dilip Vengsarkar, the Sri Lankans made a determined start and scored 37 runs in the first 10 overs. The highlight of the Sri Lankan innings was a third-wicket partnership of 126 between Arvinda de Silva and Atula Samarasekera. The two batsmen tore the Indian attack apart and scored almost at will. Samarasekera's 66 came off 69 balls, and de Silva faced 63 deliveries for his 69.

Arjuna Ranatunga was the other batsman who hit a superb 49 off 32 deliveries and remained not out.

Bishop puts W. Indies back in the game

PERTH, Australia, Oct 29. (Reuter): Ian Bishop, the least experienced of the six pace bowlers in the West Indies' touring party, stole the limelight by taking four wickets at a cost of only nine runs from 46 deliveries on the second day of the four-day match against Western Australia.

Bishop, 21, finished with five for 27 from 16 overs as the state side slumped from 151 for three to 247 all out — a first innings lead of 34.

But Western Australia had the final word today when left-arm fast-medium bowler Chris Matthews, who took five wickets in the first innings, trapped opener Desmond Haynes leg before wicket for 27 as the state side's hopes of a big first innings lead.

Matthews gave the touring team a shot in the arm at the start of the second day by dismissing Tom Hogan for nought and Geoff Marsh for 27 at a cost of four runs in the space of 19 fiery deliveries.

That left Western Australia reeling at 44 for three and they would have been in even deeper trouble had Tom Moody and Graeme Wood not been dropped early in their innings.

Moody was three when Keith Arthurton failed to hold a difficult catch at short leg off the bowling of Patrick Patterson and Wood was seven when Roger Harper spilled an easy chance at third slip off the bowling of Ambrose.

The pair made the most of their 'lives' to put on 87 for the fourth wicket before Moody, already troubled by a pinched nerve in his back, was forced to retire hurt.

Wood's dismissal for 39 at 151, hooking Bishop to Ambrose at fine leg, began a middle-order collapse which saw Western Australia lose five wickets for 21 runs.

Caught

James Brayshaw slashed wildly at Bishop and was caught by a leaping Harper at third slip, left-hander Wayne Andrews played a cramped cut shot at Patterson and was caught behind, Ken MacLeay was snipped up close on the legside off Bishop and Matthews lobbed a simple catch to Richardson at fourth slip to give Bishop his fifth wicket.

Scoreboard

WEST INDIES first innings: 213 (C. Hooper 83, C. Matthews 54 for 8)

WESTERN AUSTRALIA first innings (oversight 30 for one): G. Marsh & C. Richardson b Ambrose 27, M. Veletta c Patterson b Bishop 11, T. Hogan c Harper b Ambrose 0.

Phil Supreme capture crown

PHIL SUPREME beat Al Qabandi Corporation in a step-ladder on Friday to win the Inter-commercial Bowling Tournament and clinch the Ambassador's Cup at the 300 Club Silver Tower.

Phil Supreme put on an excellent team performance to subdue Al Qabandi 943-891 in the men's section of the tournament. The women's finals will be held on Friday, Nov. 4.

Strong

The top marksmen for Phil Supreme were Jesus Ventus with 211, Arthur Reyes 205, Ryan Abdon 192, Ness Sogale 173 and Rico Pino 162. Reyes is a strong contender for the Most Valuable Bowler award for his consistent performance throughout the tournament.

Al Qabandi, who put on a

brilliant show throughout this event, were helped by some good performances by Nafez Al Aqras 216, Mansour Al Shati 173, Kamal Attia 177, Nishat Mohammed 168 and Fahad Al Ajmi 157.

The trophy for the winners was donated by the Philippine Ambassador to Kuwait Alunac C. Glan while the runners-up prize came from Ramzi Jabsheh, manager of Magnolia Ice Cream.

Haid Ligaya had to settle for the second runners-up slot with a 895-98 win over Al Naqeeb and Khattar Co.

Top scorers for Haid Ligaya were Bob Peek 214, Manny Inserto 183, Willy Sabay 176, Dennis Mitchell 168 and Carl Baginda 144.

Al Naqeeb & Khattar, who finished third runners-up, got good performances from Munib

Hamdan who had 180 pins, Salih Karam 164, Edwin Nepomuceno 158, and Gren Ruiz 145.

Sure

In the women's games, Far East Restaurant thrashed Bodai Aviation 4-0 to make sure of taking the title on Friday. Far East players who did well were Bojo Hamdan 555, Eva Sabay 552, Jo Reyes 536, Cesile Contreras 534, Cora Paras 513 and Charly 110.

In another women's game, Magnolia beat Kay & Associates 3-1. Top scorers for Magnolia were Julie Sayed 475, Mercy Labour 457, Vangie Hepti 447, Chit Acosta and Luz Mesena 291, and Rica Chuaching 120.

OBITUARY

SUSAN JACOB

Expired on 27/10/88

Last respects could be paid at the Al Sabah Hospital today 30/10/88 between 10 & 11 am.

Funeral on Tuesday at Connor.

Inserted by Family

NOTICE

The under mentioned personnel have left Al Mulla Group's employment:

Names
1. Joseph Francis Fernandes
2. Nawab Rasul

Nationality
Indian
Indian

Passport No.
X 785138
C 068023

They are hereby requested to call at our Personnel Department for cancellation/transfer of their residence permits. The company will cancel their residence permits after 2 weeks from the date of this advertisement and will not be responsible for any legal aspects related to them.

Scoreboard

DHAKA MATCH:

SRI LANKA
Roshan Mahasena c Amaratne 21

Brendon Kumarapala b Srikantia 66

Aryindil Silva lbw Ayub 66

Arjuna Ranatunga not out 49

Duleep Mendis Amaratne b E. philip 16

Ravi Raina c Kapil 16

Tillakaratne not out 2

Extras (lb-9, w-1, nb-3) 13

Total (for six wickets, 45 overs) 284

Did not bat: Chamika Ranatunga, E. philip, Roshan Mahasena not out 7

Ejaz Ahmed not out 124

Extr (b-3 lb-6 w-14) 23

Total (for three wickets, 45 overs) 284

Did not bat: Iqbal Qasim, Manzoor Elahi, Wasim Akram, Abdul Qadir, Salim Yousaf, Tauseef Ahmed.

Fall of wickets: 1-35, 2-52, 3-178, 4-

5-216, 6-216.

Bowling: Nasir 6-55-1, Badshah 9-1-53-0, Atahar 9-0-54-1, Shanti 6-0-24-1, Wahid 6-0-32-1, Akram Khan 5-0-28-0, Name 2-0-17-0, Anumal Balbil 2-0-12-0.

CHITTAGONG MATCH:

PAKISTAN
Rameez Raja c Nasir b Nasir 10

M. Atiq lbw b Atahar 105

Salim Malik c and b Shanti 15

Ejaz Ahmed not out 124

Shobib Mohammed not out 7

Extr (b-3 lb-6 w-14) 23

Total (for six wickets, 45 overs) 284

Did not bat: Iqbal Qasim, Manzoor Elahi, Wasim Akram, Kapila Wijegamwardene, Tauseef Ahmed.

Fall of wickets: 1-43, 2-72, 3-277,

Bowling: Nasir 6-55-1, Badshah 9-1-53-0, Atahar 9-0-54-1, Shanti 6-0-24-1, Wahid 6-0-32-1, Akram Khan 5-0-28-0, Name 2-0-17-0, Anumal Balbil 2-0-12-0.

BANGLADESH

Atahar Shahid c Younis b Qasim 10

Gofar Seru lbw b Qasim 14

Gazi Lips b Qasim 10

Atahar Ali c Rameez b Qadir 22

Milazim Nabi c Shanti 6

Abdul Quddus b Qadir 7

De Silva 10

Kapil Dev Guruwardene 7

Shahidullah c Rangib b Rangib 34

Mohammed Rangib c Guruwardene 6

A. Ayub not out 9

S. Rana c Rangib b Guruwardene 28

Mashuder c De Silva b Guruwardene 7

Hossain not out 1

Extras (b-1, w-3, lb-1) 254

Total (for six wickets, 45 overs) 284

Did not bat: Nasir Nisa, Nasir Prince, Wahid Ghani

SPORTS BRIEFS

Britain win

LEEDS, England, Oct. 29. (Reuter): Britain hung on for a 30-28 victory over a Rest of the World team in a special Rugby League challenge match at Headingley today.

The game, which marked the opening this week of the sport's first Hall of Fame, produced 10 tries and some entertaining rugby highlighted by a two-try burst midway through the second half when Britain's captain Ellery Hanley and centre Garry Schofield touched down.

Soviets win

HONG KONG, Oct. 29. (AP): The Soviet Union beat Cuba 15-1, 15-9, 15-10, and China outlasted Peru 11-15, 17-15, 15-10, 11-15, 16-14 on the opening day yesterday of the Super Challenge Cup women's volleyball tournament.

Himalayan rally

NEW DELHI, India, Oct. 29. (AP): Defending champion Kenjiro Shinozuka of Japan headed for his second title in the 2,294-kilometre (1,856-mile) Himalayan car rally yesterday leading 51 cars at the end of the fifth and penultimate leg.

Cup tie

BELGRADE, Oct. 29. (Reuter): A Belgrade partisan official on Saturday accused Italian soccer club Roma of exaggerating reports of trouble at last week's UEFA Cup tie between the two sides. "They simply did not expect to lose the match so soundly and are now trying to win it off the field," the Yugoslav club's secretary Zarko Zecevic said.

Lohr leads

LAKE BUENA VISTA, Fla., Oct. 29. (Reuter): A relaxed and confident Bob Lohr fired a six-under-par 66 yesterday to retain the lead of the \$700,000 Walt Disney World Classic golf tournament after three rounds.

Olympic champion

NEW YORK, Oct. 29. (UPI): Olympic hurdling champion Andre Phillips says the steroid scandal hurts track and field because it tends to place any successful athlete under suspicion.

Singapore Open

SINGAPORE, Oct. 29. (AP): Top-seeded Steve Guy of New Zealand won the Singapore Open singles tennis championship here today by defeating fifth-seeded American Paul Chamberlin 4-6, 7-6, 7-5, 7-6, 7-3.

Lark Cup

TOJOCHO, Japan, Oct. 29. (AP): While Katsunari Takahashi, who has led all the way, had an even-par third round, Masashi "Jumbo" Ozaki fired a 68 today to advance to within two strokes of the leader in the 150-million-yen (\$1.2 million) Lark Cup golf tournament.

W. German soccer

BONN, Oct. 29. (Reuter): West German First Division soccer results today:

Hamburg	1	Karlsruhe	0
Bayern M.	3	Stuttgart K.	2
Hanover	2	St Paul	2
Borussia D.	0	Cologne	4
Werder Bremen	3	Bayer U.	1
Borussia M.	7	Wolfsburg	0
Kaiserslautern	3	Eintracht F.	0
Bayer L.	1	Bochum	1

Volvo Masters

SOTOGRANDE, Spain, Oct. 29. (UPI): Spain's Seve Ballesteros shot a two-over par round 74 to share the lead with Britain's Sandy Lyle (75) in the \$600,000 Volvo Masters on the Valderrama course today.

MILLWALL SUFFER FIRST DEFEAT

Rush ends Liverpool's lean spell

LONDON, Oct. 29. (Reuter): Ian Rush scored his second goal in successive matches as English champions Liverpool ended a depressing run of four League matches without a win by beating West Ham 2-0 away today.

The victory narrowed the gap between themselves and surprise runaway First Division leaders Norwich — held 1-1 by Southampton — to eight points.

Millwall, another of the unexpected pacemakers, lost for the first time in their debut season in the First Division when they crashed 4-2 at Middlesbrough. They surrendered second spot in the table to Arsenal, comfortable 2-0 winners over Coventry.

Broke

Welsh international Rush, who has struggled to find his predatory touch near goal since rejoining Liverpool from Italy's Juventus at the start of the season, broke the deadlock at Upton Park with a goal midway through the second half.

Peter Beardsley wrapped up Liverpool's win — only their fourth in 10 games — with a second goal in the 78th minute.

The goal which put Liverpool's season back on the rails was a gem. Rush roared to the ball just outside the West Ham penalty area and beat goalkeeper Alan McKnight with a fierce left-foot shot.

Results

English Division One

Arsenal	2	Coventry	0
Aston Villa	2	Tottenham	1

Playing Sunday: Everton v Manchester United.



Liverpool's Steve Nicol (right) beats West Ham's Stuart Slater (centre) to the ball. (Reuter wirephoto)

Charlton	2	Sheffield	1	English Division Two	1
Derby	4	Wimbledon	1	Barnsley	3
Luton	0	Q.P.R.	0	Blackburn	1
Middlesbrough	4	Millwall	2	Bournemouth	1
Newcastle	0	Notts Forest	2	Cheltenham	1
Norwich	1	Southampton	1	Leeds	1
West Ham	0	Liverpool	2	Hull	1

Playing Sunday: Everton v Manchester United.

Stoke
Swindon
Walsall
English Division Three

Aldershot	1	Colchester	1
Bolton	5	Chesterfield	0
Brentford	2	Port Vale	1
Bristol R.	5	Huddersfield	3
Gillingham	1	Wolves	3
Mansfield	2	Bristol City	1
Northampton	1	Reading	3
Notts County	0	Fulham	1
Sheffield U.	2	Bury	1
Swansea	1	Preston	1
Sunderland	1	Wigan	1

English Division Four

Burnley	1	Cambridge U.	0
Doncaster	1	Leyton Orient	2
Exeter	1	Craven	2
Grimbsy	3	Halifax	1
Hartlepool	1	Hereford	1
Lincoln	0	Carlisle	2
Peterborough	1	Scunthorpe	2
Rochdale	2	Darlington	0
Scarborough	1	Rotherham	0
Torquay	1	Tranmere	1
Wrexham	2	Walsall	1
Colchester	1	Stockport	1

Scottish Premier

Celtic	2	Dundee	3
Dundee United	1	Motherwell	3
Hamilton	0	Hibernian	3
Hearts	1	Aberdeen	1
St Mirren	1	Partick	1

Scottish Division One

Ayr	1	Clyde	1
Falkirk	3	Raith	1
Forfar	1	Airdrieonians	0
Moray	0	Dundfermline	0
Partick	1	Meadowbank	0
Queen of S.	0	Perth	0
St Johnstone	2	Kilmarnock	0

Scottish Division Two

Albion	2	Montrose	1
Brechin	2	Berwick	0
Cowdenbeath	1	Arbroath	0
Dumbarton	0	E. Stirling	0
Queen's Park	1	Allan	2
Striking	0	East Fife	0
Stranraer	2	Stenhousemuir	1

Standings

English and Scottish League soccer tables after matches played today (tabulate — played, won, drawn, lost, goals for, against, points):	
United	0

Scottish Division One

Rangers	11	8	2	1	19	6	18
Hibernian	12	5	5	2	12	6	15
Aberdeen	11	4	7	0	14	9	15
Dundee U.	12	5	4	3	15	8	14
Celtic	12	6	0	6	21	19	12
St Mirren	12	4	4	4	11	15	16
Dundee	11	3	5	3	10	13	11
Hearts	12	2	5	3	12	14	9
Motherwell	11	0	6	0	9	5	7

English Division One

Norwich	10	9	2	22	13	17
Arsenal	9	5	2	17	13	16
Millwall	9	4	4	1	17	13
Liverpool	10	4	3	3	13	15
Notts Forest	10	3	1	12	10	15
Middlesbrough	10	5	0	5	16	17
Coventry	9	4	2	12	8	14
Aston Villa	10	3	5	2	15	13
Sheffield Wed.	10	2	1	7	8	10
Carroll	10	3	4	3	14	18
Manchester U.	9	3	2	9	6	12
Derby	9	3	3	8	7	12
Everton	10	3	2	4	12	10
Luton	10	2	4	4	8	10
Wimbledon	9	3	2	5	8	16
Newcastle	10	2	2	6	9	18
West Ham	10	2	1	7	8	7
Tottenham	9	1	4	15	9	5

English Division Two

Watford	14	9	2	12	29
Blackburn	13	7	3	22	15
West Bromwich	14	6	3	23	18
Peterborough	14	6	3	23	18
Chelsea	14	6	4	23	22
Manchester C	14	6	4	18	23
Barsley	14	6	4	18	23
Crystal Palace	13	5	3	20	19
Ipswich	14	6	2	5	17
Stoke	14	5	2	5	17
Cardiff	14	5	2	5	17
Swindon	13	4	3	16	18
Sunderland	14	4	3	16	18
Leicester	14	4	5	17	17
Hull	14	4	5	17	17
Oxford	14	4	5	20	21
Nottingham	14	4	4	6	24
Bournemouth	14	4	4	6	24
Plymouth	13	4	2	9	12
Walsall	13	2	8	3	15
Leeds	13	2	6	5	10
Shrewsbury	13	2	6	5	10
Brighton	13	2	1	10	11
Birmingham	13	1	0	9	5

English Division Three

Rangers	11	8	2	19	6	18
Hibernian	12	5	5	2	12	6
Aberdeen	11	4	7	0	14	9
Dundee U.	12	5	4	3	15	8
Celtic	12	6	0	6	21	19
St Mirren	12	4				